

Board Selects Priority Under

Counties

ATLANTA (BP) — Some 147 counties in 30 states have been selected as primary targets for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's Board Mission Thrust (BMT).

The counties are listed as "under-evangelized," one of four areas of concern of BMT, which is designed to "evangelize and congregationalize" the nation by the end of the decade.

The 30 states include only one "Old South" state — Florida, in which three counties are listed in the first phase of the three phase project.

The other counties listed are in the North, Midwest and West.

All of the 54 counties making up four northeastern states — Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and Massachusetts — are included.

The first phase counties are: West Virginia — Preston, Taylor, Barbour and Tucker; Florida — Indian River,

St. Lucie and Martin; Kansas — Nemaha, Brown, Jackson and Atchison; Nebraska — Sioux, Dawes, Sheridan and Box Butte; Maine — all 16 counties; New Hampshire — all 10 counties; Vermont — all 14 counties; Pennsylvania — Union, Northumberland, Schuylkill, and Montour; New Jersey — Camden, Gloucester, and Atlantic; Iowa — Story, Dallas, Polk, Jasper, Warren, Marshall, Marion, Madison and Boone; Arizona — Graham, Cochise and Santa Cruz; California — Mono.

Wendell Belew, director of the Home Mission Board's missions division, announced the priority under-evangelized counties.

"Our effort will be in phases because we will move faster in some of the counties than we will in others," Belew said.

James Nelson, director of the

board's rural - urban missions department and manager for the under-evangelized counties project, added: "As we looked at the nation, we saw a large number of counties where we felt either evangelism was not effective or was non-existent."

"After receiving input from state Baptist convention leaderships, we zeroed in on a select group," he said.

Some of the counties listed as under-evangelized also show up on the list of key cities, another priority target of Bold Mission Thrust. An example is King County, where Seattle, Wash., is located. Seattle is listed as a key city.

A basic list of some 600 counties was selected through a computer study. Of that number, Nelson said, some 470 counties were listed as under-evangelized.

"We want to underscore the 'und-

er.' We are not saying these counties are 'un-evangelized.' We are saying they are 'under-evangelized.' Some people already are working there to bear witness for Jesus Christ."

Belew said the selection "does not minimize other Bold Mission Thrust opportunities."

Leonard Irwin, director of the board's planning section, added: "While these 147 counties will be given attention, it should be recognized that many other counties will be designated to receive priority attention by state conventions and associations. These counties are not the total. Many others will receive BMT designation by other organizations."

Nelson said approaches to evangelization and congregationalization will differ in each of the counties.

"We are working with the state conventions and associations, trying to

put together kinds of evangelization and congregationalization projects which will be effective in their setting. We will rely heavily on already existing Bold Mission Thrust planning."

He added he does not "visualize large infusions of money" into the selected counties, but said much of the effort will center on consultation and planning.

Home Mission Board consultants have been named to work with state and local leadership in planning and discovery of resources.

"Some of the effort will emphasize the use of volunteers. Also, we will try to help the local areas discover resources which already exist but which they haven't been able to tap."

In describing the areas which will get top attention, Nelson said many of them "have had churches for many years, but for a long time the churches

have not manifested an evangelistic stance. Thus, the areas must be considered under-evangelized."

Many places have abandoned church buildings, where "churches just died."

Nelson added the effort is not a "massive effort to start new churches," because not every place needs a new church. Some places are small hamlets where a large building and staff salary can't be afforded."

While approaches may differ, Nelson said the main point of the project is that "every person should have the opportunity to hear the gospel message."

He added: "We want to get the gospel to every person . . . to let every person have the opportunity to hear and accept . . . and then to grow."

While the effort is not a massive (Continued on page 5)

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Published Since 1877

JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, THURSDAY, MAY 26, 1977

Volume CI, Number 17

Conference Speakers Hit TV Crime And Violence

By Carolyn Franklin

WASHINGTON (BP) — Viewing violence on television clearly increases violent behavior, a psychiatrist said here.

Stephen T. Hersh, assistant director of child and youth services at the National Institutes of Mental Health, Rockville, Md., told a conference at the Chevy Chase Baptist Church here, "It is the consensus of the research community that there is no point in continued research on violence and

television. The question has been answered — viewing violence increases violent behavior.

"It has been clearly established that television teaches the use of aggressive behavior in solving conflicts," Hersh asserted. He noted that this conclusion emerged at a recent meeting of the Society for Research in Childhood Development. "I didn't know that this feeling was so strong throughout the entire research community," he noted.

Hersh was one of several speakers

who addressed a conference on "Violence, Mass Media, and Our Society" at the Chevy Chase Baptist Church.

Charles L. Updike, associate pastor and coordinator of the conference, said that the purpose of the conference was to create awareness of the problem of glorified violence on television and to develop constructive means of reducing the amount of violence in the mass media.

Thomas R. Estes, deputy chief of the Metropolitan Police Department here, was critical of media portrayal of law enforcement officers.

"The razzle-dazzle methods of TV supercopers make the public expect miracles we can't pull off," Estes said. "Sensationalized TV portrayals of the police are pitifully lacking in insight. One half hour of TV shows more police action than a real officer sees in his whole career."

"There's the grossest kind of misrepresentation when police kill (on TV). I've seen officers (in real-life situations) get physically and emotionally sick when they killed someone. There is often a long period of adjustment afterwards," Estes said.

Estes asserted that both the American public and law enforcement are done a great disservice by the "unsolicited dramatized violence which incidentally features police. The networks should have to prove their product will have no harmful effect as the medical profession does before it introduces any new therapy."

Estes noted that television teaches the "how-to" of crimes.

"Crime shows say to the nonconforming element of society — here is the way to do it," he said.

Estes suggested that adventure shows which portray man at his moral and physical best rarely make prime time television hours but would satisfy the need for action without the negative effects of present violent programming.

John Preston, vice president of marketing, Campbell Soup, explained the process of negotiation with the networks for advertising time. "The networks offer a package of many shows and different time slots for our advertising money. We then negotiate the details of the package. We look for three things in a show — ratings, the type of audience it attracts, and the environment for our product that fits the image we have of ourselves as a family product," Preston said.

Campbell Soup recently was listed as 12th in a list of 12 advertisers which sponsored the most violent shows. "That was a mortal blow to our ego," Preston said. "We carefully screen as many shows as we can before agreeing

to include them in our package. Certain shows, such as 'Starsky and Hutch,' we have never sponsored."

Preston also noted that some episodes which are clearly violent are necessary to the meaning of a show. As an example, he cited a torture scene in a British production they sponsored, "Elizabeth Rex." "The scene was horrible but absolutely essential if you were going to understand Elizabeth and the period in which she reigned," he insisted.

Paul D. Simmons, associate professor of Christian ethics, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., traced the history of violence in America. He observed that in our country the history of violence is equated with the highest goals and traditions of our society."



Montana Summer Missionaries Named

Thirteen students from Mississippi colleges and universities have been appointed by the state Brotherhood Department to be summer missionaries in Montana.

The 13 will work across Montana in Vacation Bible Schools, Backyard Bible Fellowship, survey, recreation and will help churches develop youth ministries.

Working under the supervision of two associational directors of missions in Montana, Glenn Fields, and W. J. Hughes, the 13 will serve in a capacity much like the Home Mission Board and Baptist Student Union appointed student summer missionaries. The Brotherhood Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, under the direction of Paul Harrell, sends a special group of students to Montana each summer because of the sister state relationship in effect between Mississippi and Montana, which is still a pioneer area for Southern Baptist work.

The students are pictured (left to right) as following with their names, hometowns, parents' names, and schools: Bernice Balch, Laurel, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Balch, Jr. William Carey College; Wanda Sullivan, Mt. Olive, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Dewey L. Sullivan, University of Southern Miss.; Floyd Smith, Lambert, son of Mrs. Marie Smith, Northwest Miss. Junior College.

Billie Faye Martin, Rutty, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Billy B. Martin, Southwest Miss. Junior College; Charles Rogers, Centerville, son of Mr. & Mrs. Richard J. Rogers, Southwest Miss. Junior College; Susan Koelz, Hernando, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. John L. Koelz, Northwest Miss. Junior College; Mary Kuehn, Como, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Wm. J. Kuehn, Northwest Miss. Junior College.

Eddie Thompson, Hickory Flat, son of Mr. & Mrs. Donald Thompson, Northwest Miss. Junior College; Ronald Kennemer, Osyka, son of Mr. & Mrs. Joe D. Kennemer, Southwest Miss. Junior College; Jesse Barksdale, Jr., Walker, La., son of Mr. & Mrs. J. L. Barksdale, Southwest Miss. Junior College.

Tom Jacobs, Union, son of Mr. & Mrs. John Jacobs, Clark College; and David Howell, Clarksdale, son of Mr. & Mrs. John S. Howell, Delta State University. Not shown, Phyllis Farr, Boyle, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. James V. Farr, Delta State University.

Top 10 SBC Churches Include 7 From Texas

NASHVILLE (BP) — Seven churches in Texas, headed by First Baptist Church, Dallas, rank in the 1977 Top 10 tabulation of Southern Baptist churches by size of membership.

The ranking, based on 1976 statistics, the latest available, show the Dallas church in the number one spot, with 18,869. That's an increase of 363 over the congregation's leading total of 18,506 in 1975, the last time Baptist Press released the Top 10 rankings (using 1974 statistics).

Although all churches in the top 10 exceed 7,000 in membership and 10 other churches top 6,000 members, statistical breakdowns show most churches in the 12.9-million-member Southern Baptist Convention have under 300 in memberships.

Statistics, compiled from 34,652 churches which reported out of the 35,073 in the nation's largest Protestant denomination, reveal 21,461 churches — or 61.9 percent — in the 299

member and below category; 10,779 churches — or 31.1 percent — in the 300 to 999 category; 2,242 churches — or 6.5 percent — in the 1,000 to 2,999 category; and 150 churches — or four tenths of one percent — in the 3,000 to 5,999 category.

Other individual top 10 rankings, based on statistics provided by the research services department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, show Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn., second with 11,407; and First Church, Lubbock, Tex., third, with 10,445.

No other church exceeds the 10,000 mark, although First Southern Del City, Okla., ranks fourth with 9,935, and First Church, Amarillo, Tex., hold fifth spot with 9,244.

Others, ranked sixth through tenth respectively, are First, Houston, Tex., 9,049; First, San Antonio, Tex., 8,961; Dauphin Way, Mobile, Ala., 7,276; First, Wichita Falls, Tex., 7,188 and (Continued on page 2)

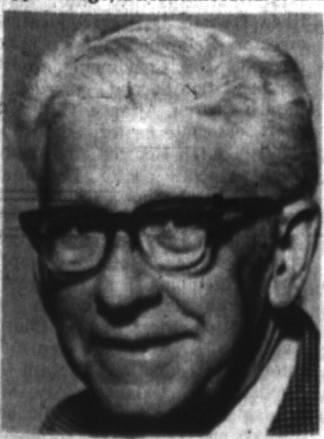
Swor, Medema Headline Youth Night Activities

Chester Swor, lecturer, author and counselor specializing in ministry to youth, and Ken Medema, singer, composer, and pianist, will be featured at the annual Youth Night program, August 12, at the Mississippi Coliseum in Jackson.

Youth Night activities begin at 6:30 p.m. The program is sponsored by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Swor, formerly dean of men and assistant professor of English at Mississippi College, is a fulltime lecturer and

counselor. He graduated from Mississippi College earned a master's degree in English from the University of North Carolina, and has done graduate work at New York University and Oxford University in England. He has been awarded four honorary doctorates from Baptist schools.

Medema, former activity therapist for multi-handicapped persons, earned a master's degree in music therapy from Michigan State University.



Swor



Medema

Baptist Work Workbook Work



Professors from Mississippi's four Baptist colleges and Therman Bryant of the state Convention Board staff, gathered recently to revise curriculum for the "Introduction to Baptist Work" course the professors teach to ministerial students.

The course, believed to be the only one of its kind in the SBC, includes an outline of the set up and operation of SBC boards and agencies, the nature and function of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, and the basic operation of the Baptist association.

During the course students study the articles of faith stated by the Southern Baptist Convention in 1963 and visit the MCBP headquarters in Jackson.

Pictured left to right are: James L. Travis of Blue Mountain College; Charles Melton of Clarke College; Phil McCarty of Mississippi College; Don Stewart of William Carey College; and Therman Bryant of the MCBP Cooperative Missions Department which coordinates the in-service guidance work of which the course is a part.

Ridgecrest Chooses Mississippi Pianist



Marcia Stewart of Florence has been selected as pianist for Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center for the summer of 1977.

A sophomore at Mississippi State University, Marcia is studying for a double BME major in piano and voice. At State she is a member of the University Madrigal Singers, Chorale, MSU Clarinet Choir, and a recent member of the Maroon Band.

She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel E. Stewart of Florence, and the

Two SBC Agencies Begin Cooperative Outreach

ACTION. The Sunday School enrollment plan to enroll anyone, anywhere, anytime, as long as they agree to being enrolled, will be one of the major tools used by the Sunday School Board in establishing new Sunday Schools, according to Cothen.

"The Sunday School Board has placed a high priority on starting new Sunday Schools," Cothen said, "and working with the Home Mission Board will add a new dimension to this area of our work."

The Home Mission Board will work with the sponsoring church, association, and state convention to develop the new Sunday Schools into church-type missions.

Tanner said that rising population in the United States has made the need evident for the Home Mission Board to accelerate programs to keep up with growth.

"We hope that in the near future Southern Baptist churches will be present in nearly every community in our nation," Tanner said.

"This cooperative effort seems to be a natural move to utilize the resources of both agencies to realize that goal," Tanner added.

According to Tanner and Cothen, every effort will be made to coordinate the programs of the Home Mission Board and Sunday School Board to

(Continued on page 2)

Bulletin

The Mississippi Baptist Student Union Student Missions Offering has passed its goal of \$30,000 with a total as of May 23 of \$30,427.75.

Michigan Baptists Launch Historic Evangelism Effort

By Jack Parrott

SOUTHFIELD, Mich. (BP) — With the added incentives of Southern Baptists' Bold Missions effort and the 20th anniversary of SBC work in Michigan, Baptists in Michigan have launched this Spring the largest evangelistic undertaking in the state's Baptist history.

Central crusades in six key cities and follow-up simultaneous revivals are underway in most of the convention's 200 churches. On the first night of the six central crusades, more than 4,000 people gathered to hear Southern Baptist evangelism leaders.

Over 200 Southern Baptists from the Baptist State Convention of Michigan's "partnership states" of Oklahoma, Florida, Kentucky, and Arkansas joined the central crusade teams to lead in local church revivals.

Michigan Evangelism Director James O. Coldiron said, "I believe more Michigan Baptists will gather for the two weeks of evangelistic thrust than have ever gathered for a Baptist meeting in Michigan before."

Some 40,000 Southern Baptists are in churches affiliated with the Michigan convention, which was organized 20 years ago by eight churches affiliated with the Motor Cities Association (constituted six years earlier in 1951). The first Southern Baptist church in Michigan opened its doors in 1923 in Jackson. The church, Gorham Baptist, still exists and is one of the leading churches in the state convention.

As part of SBC's Bold Missions effort to evangelize the world by the close of the 20th Century, Michigan churches hope to evangelize every person in the state by 1990 and to double the number of churches by the same year. That's part of a North Central Missions Thrust in which Michigan and six other states (Iowa, Indiana, Illinois, Ohio, Wisconsin and Minnesota) are cooperating to double their work.

Already Harold C. Crane, Michigan's state missions director, reports launching of five new missions and constituting of five churches in the state. With a projected goal of 57 new missions in 1977, 82 locations for missions have been pinpointed and surveyed by area directors of missions. Forty of those areas have received the formal support of existing churches in the beginning of the new work.

Over two years ago, Coldiron and Robert B. Wilson, the Michigan convention's executive director - treasurer, began contacting the partnership states about sharing in the evangelistic mission thrust in 1977.

Ouster Decision On MC Student Still Pending

Last Friday the Baptist Record, the three Jackson television stations' news personnel and other news operations were invited to a press conference by students on the Mississippi College campus.

They were upset over the request earlier by the vice president of student affairs for a student not to return to the college this fall. That student confirmed this to the Baptist Record.

The student in question had been one of several involved in publication of "The New Press" an unauthorized news sheet which criticized differences in policy concerning student men and women's conduct. The publication only had two issues.

When the TV cameras arrived several student leaders and some faculty members and administrators were in a closed meeting over the matter and declined to meet with reporters.

Later MC President Lewis Nobles issued a warning to the television news personnel that any statements made by students who weren't in the meeting might be in error and that three faculty and staff members, acceptable to student leaders will review the matter and make recommendations to President Nobles.

The president's statement said that by law the college is not allowed to publicly discuss the nature of conversations about students.

2 SBC Agencies

(Continued from page 1)

make it easier for state leaders of these programs to work together in this effort.

State Baptist convention personnel will be asked to coordinate the involvements of associations and the two SBC agencies.

"Bold Mission: Let the Church Reach Out," the 1977-79 Southern Baptist Convention emphasis, was a primary reason for beginning the cooperative effort.

Tanner and Cothen said that the program will be implemented "as quickly as possible so new Sunday Schools and churches can be established to help Southern Baptists in their goal of bringing men to God through Jesus Christ."

The Michigan convention voted official support for the thrust and designated 1977 as the "Year of Evangelism."

Every Baptist — including pastors, music directors, and laypersons — from the southern partnership states came to Michigan at their own expense; some taking vacations from their jobs. In addition, special personalities, such as Ann Marie Fairchild, Austin Brown, the Amazon Brothers, and the Sunshine Singers, paid their own expenses to come in

Michigan for the crusades.

More than 100 decisions for Christ were made in the opening days of the crusade with conversion stories plentiful. The number of commitments and requests for special counseling ran high each night.

Twenty years ago less than 2,000 Southern Baptists who could be pinpointed lived in Michigan. In 1977, thousands of Michigan Baptists have joined with their sister churches from the South in a bold effort to evangelize Michigan for Christ.

FMB Appoints 10, Opens 87th Country

RICHMOND (BP) — The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board appointed 10 new career missionaries at its May meeting here and also voted to begin work in the Southeast Asian country of Sri Lanka.

Sri Lanka, formerly known as Ceylon, will be the 87th country in which Southern Baptist missionaries are serving. Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Cullen, formerly missionaries to Thailand, have been transferred to the new area of work. Cullen has been on temporary assignment to Sri Lanka since Jan. 1.

In other action, the board decided, after consultation with leaders of the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union, to extend by one month the period for tabulating the annual Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions. This means that the final total for the annual offering will be compiled at the end of May, instead of at the end of April.

Executive Director Baker J. Cauthen said the month extension will allow the final total to reflect "the considerable sum of money" usually received in May. The annual meetings of the Southern Baptist Convention and the WMU now are held in June, instead of May as in earlier years, Cauthen noted, and the final tabulation will be available for announcement just prior to these meetings.

Latest reports on the 1976 Lottie Moon Offering showed a total of \$28,314,617 an increase of \$2,145,195 over last year's offering but still short of the \$29 million goal. If receipts this year follow the pattern of past years, Cauthen said, the total should be more than \$28.5 million by the end of May.

Appointed as missionaries were Mr. and Mrs. M. Joseph Benfield of Indiana and Georgia, to Uruguay; Mr. and Mrs. Richard C. Dickerman of Missouri and Indiana, to Ecuador; Mr. and Mrs. James Miller Jr. of South

Carolina and North Carolina, to Ecuador; Mr. and Mrs. Larry S. Thomas of Texas, to East Africa, and Mr. and Mrs. R. Neil Tuttle of North Carolina and Kansas, to Japan.

Mrs. Tuttle will be returning to the land where she grew up as an "MK" (missionary kid) while her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alvin E. (Bud) Spencer, served as missionaries in Japan.

At the May 10 meeting, board members also appropriated \$225,000 from 1976 Lottie Moon funds to rebuild and refurbish the storage building at Jibla Baptist Hospital in Jibla, Yemen, which destroyed by fire, April 21. The entire 70-bed hospital was evacuated at the height of the fire, and afterwards the hospital sent home all patients except those in critical condition.

The fire, believed caused by a faulty water heater, destroyed all the hospital's drug supplies, four generators, all hospital linens except those on the beds, spare parts for all hospital equipment, the water heater, the electrical distribution center, the telephone intercom system, two commercial washing machines, and a commercial sewing machine — all housed in the 4,000-square-foot storage building.

Missionary doctor James M. Young Jr., hospital administrator, said the hospital staff expects to reopen its outpatient clinic soon, but that it could not begin operating on a regular basis until supplies have been replenished and some equipment replaced.

At the same time it was looking to needs overseas, the board also approved the \$255,000 purchase of an additional piece of property adjoining its home office site in Richmond. The lot, fronting on Monument Avenue at Hamilton in Richmond, will provide space for future expansion and parking requirements.

The board voted \$80,000 from 1976 Lottie Moon funds to produce eight ad-

SB Religious Educators Confront Bold Mission

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP) — Religious educators throughout the nation's largest Protestant denomination will gather for the 22nd annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Religious Education Association (SBREA) here, June 12-13.

The meeting at the Sheraton Royal Hotel precedes the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC), June 14-16, at H. Roe Bartle Convention Center.

Emphasizing the SBC's "bold mission" objective to evangelize the world by the close of the century, the SBREA meeting will confront "the bold mission of religious education" through Bible teaching, missions, discipleship development, and personal involvement.

Program personnel include P. Kevin O'Sullivan, executive vice president, American Society for Training and Development, Madison, Wis., speaking on "The Leader as a Trainer;" William E. Hull, pastor, First Baptist Church, Shreveport, La., speaking on "Why We Teach the Bible" and "How the Bible Changes Lives."

Also, Albert McClellan, director of program planning and associate executive secretary, SBC Executive Committee, Nashville, speaking on "Living Out Bold Mission;" Billie Pate, supervisor, and John Hendrix, consultant, pilot project section, church training department, SBC Sunday School Board, Nashville, with a presentation on "Equipping: Biblical Images and Current Structures;" Elaine Dickson of the Sunday School Board, speaking on "Leadership Requirements for Bold Mission;" and W. Randall Lolley, president, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C., speaking on "The Church and the Challenge of Bold Mission."

The conference gets underway at 7 p.m. Sunday, June 12. Monday's program includes sessions at 8:15 a.m., 2 p.m. and 6:45 p.m., and a 12:15 p.m. luncheon in tribute to two longtime denominational leaders.

The luncheon will honor Phillip B.

Harris and A. V. Washburn, who are retiring this year after long service as secretaries respectively of the church training and Sunday School departments at the Sunday School Board.

The tribute will feature comments by Joe Davis Heacock, retired dean of religious education, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, and Keener Pharr, church development division director for the Florida Baptist Convention, Jacksonville, and a skit by Melva Cook, program consultant, family ministry department, Sunday School Board.

Other program personnel for the two-day meeting include William E. Young, SBREA president, supervisor, children's section, church training department, Sunday School Board, and other Sunday School Board staffers including Crawford Howell, manager Broadman sales department, Bruce Powers, church program center coordinator, and Wilford E. Bell, consultant, church training department.

Also, Peggy Latham, minister to internationals, First Baptist Church, Wichita Falls, Tex.; David Roddy, minister of education, First Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss.; Alan H. Runnels, pastor, Swope Park Baptist Church, Kansas City, Mo.; Velma Rhea Torbett, assistant educational director, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis; B. A. Clendinning, minister of consultation, Second Ponce de Leon Baptist Church, Atlanta, Ga.; Mark Short, associate pastor, South Main Baptist Church, Houston; and Truman Kerr, associate pastor, Broadmoor Baptist Church, Shreveport, La.

Also, Elmer Bailey, SBREA vice president and president-elect, associate pastor, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn.; Charles P. Wood, minister of education / administration, First Baptist Church, Lafayette, La.; Roy L. Blackmon Jr., minister of education, Putnam City Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, Okla.

A feature of the conference includes displays and consultations throughout the two days by various Baptist agencies, departments and programs.

Silver Dollars Multiply At Harmontown (Panola)

By Carol T. Welch

A unique offering from the church to its members made this year's Stewardship Month at Harmontown Church, Como, the most successful in history. One hundred thirty-five silver dollars were given, to see how the people could make them work for the Lord. The returns were tremendous!

A widow's return on her \$1 was \$200. One gentleman turned his \$1 into 100 Gideon Bibles. People of all ages invested in gasoline and postage stamps to contact other people in different areas, to witness for the Lord.

One man put his \$1 into pole beans; we'll know the return at harvest time (we need more rain!) Another \$1 was invested in a fishing tournament. The trophies brought back over \$200.

With these and various other projects, over \$1000 was the return for the Silver Dollar Day and our faithful stewards tallied up untold rewards and benefits. One of the Sunday services brought so many testimonies that Pastor Don Stanfill had only 15 minutes to deliver his sermon.

Auditions For Centurymen

Annual auditions for The Centurymen have been scheduled for June 21 at Ridgecrest (N. C.) Conference Center and July 5 at Glorieta (N.M.) Conference Center.

The Centurymen is the men's singing group created by the Radio and Television Commission to provide program music for Commission programs. The group has just returned from a mission tour of Brazil. The tour was co-sponsored by the Radio and Television Commission and the Foreign Mission Board.

"All voice categories are eligible for audition," said J. Malcolm Edwards, Centurymen manager. "But only men who are vocationally involved in church music are eligible for membership."

The auditions at both Ridgecrest and Glorieta will be held from 2 to 5 p.m. Both dates fall on a Tuesday.

ditional episodes for use overseas of the "Jot" television series as a joint project with the SBC Radio and Television Commission, which will share equally in the financing for the production.

J. Winston Crawley, director of the board's overseas division, said experience has shown that the cartoon presentation, in which "Jot" is the central character, translates more easily into other cultures than almost any other type of TV program. With the 18 episodes already available, the new series will make possible a 26-week series for showing abroad.

Youth Bible Drill Reps Picked In State Finals

Youth Bible Drill representatives for Glorieta and Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Centers were chosen May 7 in a selection tournament in Jackson. Pandora Thomas (No. 9) won the right to represent Mississippi at the denomination drill at Ridgecrest. Marcy McCord (No. 7) won the trip to Glorieta. Carroll Burt (No. 2) was chosen alternate.

The Youth Bible Drill is composed of three types of drills, the book drill, scripture searching drill, and identifying verses drill. And book or scripture verse may be called for in the first two of the above drills. For the identifying drill, youths must memorize specified passages and find these in the Bible when called to do so. They are allowed only eight seconds in which to find the verse or book.

Miss Thomas is from Robinson Baptist Church in Liberty and was coached in the drill by Mrs. Patsy Landry. Miss McCord is a member of Calvary Baptist Church, Tupelo, where she was trained by Mrs. Thelma Haley and Mrs. Sarah Tolleson. Mr. Burt was one of 14 youth drillers from Petal-Harvey Baptist Church in Petal. Mr. and Mrs. Preston Blackwell work with these.

The selection tournament is held for the sole purpose of choosing the assembly representatives. Ratings of superior, excellent, or good are earned during state final drills. Younger youths who choose, may then compete for the privilege of representing Mississippi at either of the conference centers.

NAB Board Upholds Alcohol Ad Guides

WASHINGTON (BP) — The Radio Code Board of the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) meeting here upheld its Alcoholic Beverage Advertising Guidelines banning sponsorship by distillers and distributors of public service - type announcements. It also reaffirmed policy provisions incorporated in the Code's guidelines pertaining to "mixer product" advertising, but agreed that acceptability of specific copy language which is descriptive of the product should be left to the individual licensees. The policy continues to preclude references to specific hard liquor drinks.

In other actions, the board: — Declined to change the Code policy which would have allowed advertising of a horoscope service by telephone. The change was requested by representatives of Young and Rubicam and the N. Y. Telephone Co.

— Reaffirmed Code policy which disallows hypnosis for weight reduction and smoke cessation clinics.

— Reaffirmed its policy which finds unacceptable the advertising of cigarette paper.

The Code Board, while continuing to uphold its policy precluding the advertising of contraceptive products, responded to a proposal by directing its personal products committee and the Code Authority to enter into discussions with the National Council of Churches, the United Methodist



This year 49 out of the 263 state finals participants chose to compete in the selection tournament.

The 12 finalists are pictured: (1) Karen Chunn, West Jackson St.

Portugal Missionaries To France

LISBON, Portugal — The Portuguese Baptist Convention, in a special service at Third Baptist Church here, commissioned its first missionaries to France. The couple, Mr. and Mrs. Antonio Tiago Pereira, will live with their seven children in Bordeaux and work primarily with Portuguese immigrants. The missionaries will be sponsored by the Portuguese convention, the French Baptist Federation (convention) and the France Mission (organization of Southern Baptist missionaries in France).

The Pereiras served as missionaries in Angola from 1963 until 1976. They left that country because of civil war, and later were denied permission by the government to return.

Portuguese Baptists are missionary minded, says Norman Harrell, Southern Baptist missionary press representative in Portugal. They have been searching for a new outlet for their missionary work since Angola, says Harrell, Mozambique was also closed to them.

According to the President of the convention, "When our convention loses its missionary vision, then our days are numbered." With the opening of the new field in France, Harrell adds, "Portuguese Baptists feel anew that they are helping to fulfill the Great Commission of Christ."

Convention officials emphasized that their former fields in Africa would not be forgotten, and that new missionaries would be appointed for them again as soon as circumstances permit.

Church, Tupelo; (2) Carroll Burt, Petal-Harvey, Petal; (3) Betty Daniel, Harmony, Winston association; (4) Andy Bankston, Robinson, Liberty; (5) Cassandra Blackwell, Petal-Harvey, Petal; (6) Andy McKenzie, Mt. Pisgah, Choctaw association; (7) Marcy McCord, Calvary, Tupelo; (8) Lori Brower, FBC, Coffeeville; (9) Pandora Thomas, Robinson, Liberty; (10) Jay Henderson, Petal-Harvey, Petal; (11) Angela Martin, Petal-Harvey, Petal; (12) Renae Manney, West Jackson St., Tupelo.

The Youth Bible Drill is a Bible skills activity conducted by the Church Training Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Two Promoted By Sunday School Board

NASHVILLE (BP) — Johnnie C. Godwin and Reginald M. McDonough, both section supervisors at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board here, received promotions as a result of the agency's reorganization.

Godwin, supervisor of the Broadman Books and Music section, was elected manager of the Broadman products department.

McDonough, a supervisor in the church administration department at the board the past 13 years, was elected head of that department.

Godwin, 40, a native of Texas, has been at the board since 1970 when he became editor of youth materials in the Sunday School department. He served three years as coordinating editor of youth materials in the youth section of the Sunday School department before moving to the Broadman division in 1975.

Top 10 SBC Churches

(Continued from page 1)

Travis Avenue, Fort Worth, Tex., 7,132. No other churches exceed 7,000 members.

The 10 Southern Baptist churches in the 6,000 member range, are First, Jacksonville, Fla., 6,918; First, Atlanta, 6,784; North Phoenix (Ariz.), 6,657; South Main, Houston, 6,562; First, Tulsa, 6,522; Walnut Street, Louisville, 6,373; First, Jackson, Miss., 6,356; Cliff Temple, Dallas, 6,226; First, Midland, Tex., 6,188; and First, Lawton, Okla., 6,048.

McWilliams Begins Sabbatical

Anne McWilliams, editorial associate for the Baptist Record, has begun a three month sabbatical in Texas and in London, England.



Mrs. McWilliams, who has worked on the Baptist Record staff 24 years, will take an advanced reporting class at Baylor University in Waco, Tex., then will travel to London to Birkbeck College, which is a part of the University of London. There she will study journalism, photography, and English literature.

Mrs. McWilliams will continue her weekly column on the editorial page, telling of her experiences during her trips. She will return to the Baptist Record at the end of August.

Jerden Resigns Colorado Editorship

DENVER (BP) — Larry R. Jerden, editor of the Rocky Mountain Baptist here since March, has resigned, effective May 15.

The 33-year-old veteran of 10 years in Southern Baptist journalism, who succeeded O. L. Bayless as editor of the state newspaper of the Colorado Baptist General Convention, cited "marital and personal problems" as his reason for leaving in an editorial in the Rocky Mountain Baptist's May 13 issue.

Jerden has accepted freelance writing assignments in Texas.

His editorial praised the support given him by Glen Braswell, the Colorado Convention's executive director - treasurer, and other Colorado leaders and said his personal situation made it "best for myself and Colorado Baptists that I resign."

Previously Jerden had served as associate editor of World Mission Journal, SBC Brotherhood Commission, Memphis; assistant editor, Baptist Standard, Dallas; assistant editor of Baptist Men's Journal (predecessor of World Mission Journal), Brotherhood Commission; and staff writer, public relations department, SBC Sunday School Board, Nashville.

Before joining Southern Baptists, Jerden had worked as a newspaper and wire service reporter. He is a journalism graduate of Texas A & M University, has done graduate work in journalism at East Texas State University and has attended Southwest-ern Seminary.

SBC Evangelists Set Conference

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP) — The Southern Baptist Evangelists Conference, here June 15 in the Music Hall in the Kansas City convention complex, will feature a variety of evangelists and evangelistic singers.

The annual meeting will come during a break in the schedule of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) annual meeting, June 14-16, in H. Roe Bartle building in the complex.

After an 8:30 a.m. breakfast and business meeting in the Holiday Inn (Downtown), the conference will convene in the Music Hall for a 1 p.m. concert by music evangelists, followed at 2 p.m. by a series of speakers and musicians. It will adjourn at 4:30 p.m.

Speakers include Wayne Bristow, an

Bryant Recovering

Therman Bryant, associate director of the MBCB Cooperative Missions Department who has been ill for several days, had major surgery in the Hinds General Hospital in Jackson Monday and is making satisfactory progress in his recovery. It is hoped he will be able to return to his work within a few weeks, according to Foy Rogers, department director.

Seminary Honors President, Approves \$1.6 Million Budget

MILL VALLEY, Calif. (BP) — Trustees of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary here honored President Harold K. Graves for 25 years service as the school's chief administrator, voted to participate in a \$30 million capital / endowment campaign with the other five Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) seminaries, approved an \$8.7 million capital needs request, and approved a record \$1.6 million budget for 1977-78.

The trustees also received a \$50,000



Claude Rhea of Samford University in Birmingham (left) was guest clinician and choral director for the festival. J. M. Wood, minister of music for Broadmoor church, coordinated the festival committee.



The adult choir from FBC, Oxford participated in the event. George McFadin is minister of music.

WMU

Senior Ladies Gather Greenery, Health, And Missionary Info

More than 85 women at the Sixty-five Plus Retreat at Camp Garaywa, May 10-12, heard about the importance of keeping fit, about a jungle sawmill and about basic senior citizens' problems.

The retreat, sponsored by the state Woman's Missionary Union Baptist Women Division, brought in W. B. Abel, pastor of Union Ridge Baptist Church in Winston County as Bible study leader, and Jimmie McCaleb, minister of youth at 38th Ave. Baptist Church in Hattiesburg, led the singing. Mrs. McCaleb was in charge of fellowships and led a discussion of problems facing senior adults and how to solve them.

Edward McKeithen, pastor of Trin-

ity Baptist Church in Wayne County, and his wife shared slides, information and inspiration of an unusual experience they had in Ecuador in 1976. At the request of missionary James P. Gilbert who is from Clinton, and under the sponsorship of the Agricultural Mission Foundation, McKeithen went to Ecuador to supervise and help in erecting a sawmill in the jungles near Quito.

David VanLandingham, M.D., spoke on the importance of keeping physically fit and Mrs. Ann Rushing, marketing supervisor for Mississippi State University, gave hints on planning, purchasing, storing and eating the right kinds of food.

The Baptist Home and Foreign Mission Boards were represented by Edd and Freda Trott of Brazil, R. T. Buckley of Bangladesh, Rodney Webb, language home missionary, and David Myers, Christian social ministries home missionary, all shared the excitement of their work with the group.

All the time was spent in studying, singing and listening to the missionaries. The women held a crafts fair, showing off handwork and exchanging potted plants.

Marjean Patterson, state WMU director, and Sue Tatum, shared experiences of their seven country visit to SBC mission fields. And Frank Polard, pastor of FBC, Jackson, brought the closing message of the retreat.

The ladies swapped potted plants and showed crafts.

The Committee on Nominations is receiving recommendations for membership on the boards of the several colleges, according to the chairman, Beverly Tinnin.

Recommendations for such memberships should be supported by detailed information as indicated on personal data forms which may be obtained from the Chairman of the Committee on Nominations.

All recommendations should be received by the Chairman of the Com-

On April 29-30, nearly 600 people (representing 18 choirs and 5 ensembles) participated in the adult Festival of Praise at Broadmoor Baptist Church, Jackson. The event was sponsored by the MBCB Church Music Department.



Left to right are Dan C. Hall, MBCB church music department director, Jerry Clower, entertainer for the festival, and Claude Rhea.

Pastors: Do You Know Your Preschoolers?

"Help, I'm the Pastor," an article in the April - June Preschool Leadership magazine, is the first of a quarterly series of four by Billy Hudgens, consultant in the Sunday School Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Pastors, you should read this article, and the other three which will follow. This material will help you learn about the work in the Preschool Division of your church, and give you a digest of what you might do to better minister to preschoolers.

If you do not have a copy of Preschool Leadership, borrow the magazine from one of your preschool workers, and read it.

Thursday, May 26, 1977

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 3

The Missions Task

Power Of Repetition

By John Alexander, Director Stewardship Department, MBCB

It will soon be time again for churches to begin plans for the development, promotion and subscription of the annual church budget.

I believe that every church, as a matter of settled policy, should take every available chance to play up the vital importance of the individual church member's need to give. Those in places of leadership must never tire of preaching the gospel of thoughtful, proportionate, and regular giving. For while the old words may get tiresome in the minds of the staff and the temptation to try something new may be hard to resist, the educational job that has to be done never changes, never gets any easier, and simply has to be repeated as the constituency fades out at the top and is refreshed from below.

There is no way to determine which of your small church givers today will be your major contributor 20 years from now. It is therefore absolutely essential to try to develop every member toward his or her fullest potential.

The good laws and principles of church fund-raising are a priceless gift of the long years, and can be ignored or trifled with at your peril. Avoid if you can the annual temptation to find novel ideas and fresh lines for copy; on the contrary, seek maximum mileage for the tested prose and the proved ways to gain thoughtful and proportionate support. They are the hills wherein the best gold lies.

Every budget promoter needs to know what one famous and successful fund-raiser of the past has to say about church fund-raising efforts: "Exhortation in the pulpit does nothing for those not here. Mailed material alone achieves no involvement. Threatened failure is too often featured more than tales of success. Talk of tithing can indeed suggest higher standards of giving, whereas talk of averages can ruin them. But the only sure way to move the more remote members of the congregation to higher levels of support is to go out where they are and by influential advocacy get them involved in program. You have to pay attention, and you have to take pains."

Sometimes churches have problems with budget items included because some domineering soul feels he alone has the wisdom to solve all of the problems of the world. How a church handles budget problems can strengthen or weaken its solicitation effort.

Daniel Willard says that there was nothing better for the freight business of the B&O Railroad than letters of complaint about the poor service in the dining cars. Mr. Willard had all such letters sent to his desk and handled them himself in such a way as to win many important customers. He was grateful to the kickers; he assured them that under such circumstances he would have been much more upset than they were and made it plain that the thoughtful testimony of such wonderful customers was the best possible help the railroad could have in its constant striving for better service.

It is always good in budget interpretation and promotion to "tell the people what you are going to tell them, tell them, and then tell them what you told them!"

COOPERATIVE MISSIONS

MBCB Offers Survey Training Workshop

A Survey Training Workshop will be held at the Baptist Building in Jackson on June 20-21, beginning at noon on the 20th and adjourning at noon on the 21st. This workshop will be for persons in local churches and associations who are interested in learning how to conduct surveys in their church communities and towns.

The meeting will be presided over by J. Ray Grissett of the Cooperative Missions Department and Clay Price of the Special Surveys and Studies Department of the Home Mission Board, Atlanta, GA. Grissett said that not only individuals will be trained for their own benefit but that special survey workers will be trained to assist churches in surveying the unchurched population in their communities.

The basic outline of coverage in the training session is as follows: slide presentation — overview, purpose, effectiveness; planning the survey — Best method, sources of information, setting dates, mapping area, cost, follow-up, publicity preparation — organization, calendar, materials, recruitment, packets.

Also: canvassing — training, canvassing, follow-up contacts; processing — collecting cards, sorting, coding, tally, filing system; cultivation — sharing information, contacts, six month follow-up, using information; other types of surveys.

If you would like to attend this work-

shop, please contact J. Ray Grissett of the Cooperative Missions Department, P. O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39201-3704.

Bennett Accepts Georgia Church

Ben Bennett, pastor, Calvary Church, Yazoo City, has resigned effective May 31.

Bennett has accepted the pastorate of Chase Memorial Church, Columbus, Georgia. A native of Georgia, he is a graduate of Baptist Bible Institute, Graceville, Florida. He attended the University of Mississippi and earned his Bachelor of Arts and Master of the Social Sciences degrees from Mississippi College.

He is married to the former Jacquelyn Henry of Thomaston, Georgia and they have two children: Mrs. August (Charoyn) DeRosa of Japan and Lt. David Bennett, Ft. Knox, Kentucky.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adult Vacation Bible School Workers Will Need "ABC's Of Proverbs"

Plans for adults in Bible school this summer include the study of Proverbs. The American Bible Society has produced a little booklet, "ABC's of Proverbs." These may be secured for use in the study.

The booklets, 35c each, can be ordered from: American Bible

Society, Box 5656, Grand Central Station, New York, N. Y. 10017. The order number is: No. 06112 and a check will need to accompany the order. Postage is prepaid.

The Sunday School Department at the Baptist Building will have these available, but not for mail-outs.

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BR-1

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Editorials

Who's To Be SBC President?

Two matters of importance should be claiming the attention of messengers planning to attend the Southern Baptist Convention June 14 to 16 in Kansas City.

One is a proposed constitutional amendment that would cause numerical results to be announced following each vote taken at the convention. This proposal was turned over to the SBC Executive Committee for study with a report being called for this year.

The Executive Committee will recommend that vote tallies be announced automatically on all balloting except for officers, and that they be made public on votes for officers if the convention votes to ask for them.

This seems fair enough. There has continued to be some tension applied for the automatic announcement of vote tallies on officers. The reasoning has been that if a person is big enough to run for an office that person should be big enough to have the vote tallies announced. And there should be no secrets.

All of this may be true, but there still seems to be very little reason, if any, for the tally to be announced. One person wins, and the others lose; and what differences does it make what the count was? If the convention wants to know, let it say so. If it doesn't care, why bother?

This is not to say that the vote count should be kept a secret. It just might be that the majority of the convention would rather not know. It could save some unnecessary embarrassment at times if the count were not announced.

The people who have been in the race should be allowed to know what the count was regardless of what the convention might decide. They should be allowed to ask the chief teller for the

count and be told what it was. There surely should be no secret from them under any circumstances. Otherwise, for the totals on the votes on officers, let the convention decide.

The other matter relates to the officers also. For the most part the president of the Southern Baptist Convention has served two years. The last president to serve one term only was K. Owen White, and he was president of the Texas convention at the same time.

This year James L. Sullivan has announced he will not serve a second term, and the reasons are understandable. He had retired, and being president of the Southern Baptist Convention is not being in retirement.

Therefore, a new president will have to be selected.

As will be noted by the guest editorial on this page, there is some sentiment beginning to develop in favor of limiting the presidency to one year rather than the traditional two of the present. This writer would not agree with that position completely, but the conclusion to be drawn would revolve around the concept of how important the position of president is felt to be. If it is a highly important office in the life of Southern Baptists, then the possibility of a two-year term should remain; for the second year can be more meaningful than the first as the office holder gains experience. The president himself could always determine if he wanted his tenure to be limited to one term.

If it doesn't have a great deal of meaning, then the term could be limited in order to pass around the honor more often — and it is without question an honor to be president of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The answer to the question of importance, of course, lies to a great degree in the nature of the office holder. Some men are able to bring more meaning into the office than others. The president can make no official pronouncements for the convention. His official position on any matter would be that which has been determined by the convention. Personally, he can take any position he desires.

Most of his importance lies in being a focal point around which Southern Baptists can rally. He can help to mold them into a gigantic single force, or he might tend to be an influence in their becoming a body of smaller, less effective groups.

To the degree that this is true, according to the ability of the person, the presidency can become a highly important one indeed. Messengers should be very judicious in their selection.

The man elected, if he is to mold a single force, should come from the great mainstream of Southern Baptist life. Of course, any individual messenger's concept might vary from the next one as to where the boundaries of that mainstream might be. There is no question, however, but that the mainstream is found in conservatism.

It would be well, also, if the new president were well-versed in denominational affairs before taking office.

The decision of President Sullivan is one that is completely understandable. In one year, however, he has been an outstanding president; and the decision not to let himself be nominated again has caused Southern Baptists to begin looking around almost frantically to see who should succeed him.

The choice should be considered very carefully. It should be a prayerful decision.

Guest Editorial

Limit SBC Presidency To One Year Personally.

James L. Sullivan is right. One year is long enough to be president of the Southern Baptist Convention. Dr. Sullivan does not want to be considered for a second one-year term as president when his present year expires at the Convention in June. Action should be taken this year to limit the SBC presidency to one year.

Dr. Sullivan says his reasons for declining nomination for a second year's presidency are personal. He cited the continual travel, the pressures and demands of time as factors in his decision. Possibly at age 67 he finds even his robust good health and boundless energy insufficient for the task. The Southern Baptist Convention elected Dr. Sullivan at a critical time. We needed him. He could serve ably for another year if elected. But the messengers must be willing to abide by his decision.

The SBC presidency should be limited to one year. The reasons are obvious. The president's official responsibilities are principally those of making appointments to committees and president at the annual session. This means that he faces no great responsibility off "learning the business" for purposes of continuity of leadership. On the other hand, he receives so many

invitations to speak throughout the nation and world that one year is exhausting and two years more than most people can endure.

Convention presidents in the past have adapted to the pressures of travel and speaking invitations in various ways. In the past 15 years the SBC has had nine presidents. All but one were pastors and all, including the layman, willing to stand before any group at any time and speak. The pastors elected to this high office have had understanding and supportive churches. Some of these men were away from their own pulpits for a majority of the time during their presidency. At least two declined virtually all travel and speaking opportunities, saying they would not be absent from their own pulpit for anything other than official Convention business.

Opponents of the one-year limit argue that the SBC president learns during his first year and is able therefore to be more effective during his second year. The fallacy in that line of reasoning is that he would be still more capable in a third and fourth year of office, and more. It shows also a wrong concept of the Convention's chief elective office. The president is not responsible for any continuity of prog-

ram. He is charged only with those functions that pertain to the Convention in session, the appointments and presiding referred to above.

If indeed he "learns" during his first year an alternate to a second year in office would be to have a president-elect. He would be an attentive student of all proceedings, knowing that in the next annual session he would hold the gavel.

South Carolina Baptist Convention has limited its presidency to one year since 1941. Reasons set forth at that time, according to the *Baptist Courier*, were that (1) An individual should not be asked to carry this responsibility for more than one year, (2) An abundance of able people is available among whom the office can be passed, and (3) The ongoing program depends not on the president but the general secretary and his staff.

The Southern Baptist Convention should amend its Constitution to limit the presidency to one year. This is done by vote of two thirds of voting messengers in two succeeding annual conventions. The first step should come this year.

By John Roberts
The Baptist Courier
South Carolina

He Shared What He Had

By Edward B. Trott
Missionary-in-Residence

Have you ever had two flat tires at once? In Brazil, I have had two flat tires at once several times. Once this

happened while it was raining. I tried to keep going by placing leaves in one flat tire. That didn't work. I had no tire pump nor patch in the car, and it looked like we were going to spend the night in the car. A men's quartet was riding with me. Our destination was Barra de Santa Rosa. We were scheduled to hold a special evangelistic service. One of the quartet, Jose Hilario, solved our problem. He discovered a bolt and two washers in the car. By putting the head of the bolt and one washer through the hole in the inner tube and the other washer and nut on the outside of the hole, he made a temporary patch. Then with the use of a small rubber hose, he took air out of the three inflated tires. We were then able to continue on our way.

On another occasion, I had two flat tires at the same time. It was near a very small town late at night as I was returning from a preaching engagement. I had tire patch in the car, but the pump wouldn't work. I walked to the little village where I met a man returning home from the night shift at a sugar mill. I asked if he knew anyone who had a tire pump. He replied,

"Well, the druggist has a car. Maybe he has one."

I hated to wake the druggist at that hour of the night, but I didn't have much choice. He told me he didn't have a pump, but he suggested, "Take my spare tire. You can return it when you get your tire fixed." I couldn't believe he was willing to do this. He had never seen me before and I lived fifty miles away. Yet, he was willing to share what he had because I needed it.

The next day I returned the spare tire. He shared what he had with me. I shared what I had with him. I brought him a Bible. I told him how he could be saved through faith in Christ.

Are you willing to share what you have with those in need? We live in a needy world. Millions need food, medical attention, clothing, shelter and education. But the greatest need in the world is for salvation through faith in Christ. You have it and they need it. Will you share this good news with others by giving through the Cooperative Program? By sharing through the Cooperative Program your church can fill a world of needs.

Book Reviews

OUT OF THE SEA by James P. Leyne (Good News Publishers, paper, 190 pp., \$3.50) This is a fascinating story about the people of the Netherlands. Rich in humor, it tells of vivid historical events and of the life of the author. It brings into focus the Dutch perspective on the reformation, their impact on the world of art, their commerce that encircled the globe, and their fierce spirit of independence.

O CHRISTIANS! O JEWS! by Paul R. Carlson (David C. Cook, 246 pp., \$1.95).

This book takes us from ancient Abraham to modern Israel. It gives us an earnest look into the religious doctrines and rites of Judaism and offers to reveal the mysteries of the Jewish people, whose past is very much a part of all Christians.

KNOWING WHERE YOU STAND WITH GOD by Bill Junker (Broadman, 96 pp., \$2.25)

Have you ever wondered where you stood with God? This book measures tests we often put ourselves through in gauging our spirituality and shows the reader how valid or invalid they are through scripture reference.

SIX AMERICAN FAMILIES by Paul Wilkes (Seabury/Parthenon Press, paperback, \$1.95, 145 pp.) This

portrait of family life in 1970s America is based on the nationally televised series and written by Paul Wilkes, the programs' host, reporter, and associate producer. The book takes you inside the lives of six very different families from all over the country. It examines each family in terms of what keeps them together and what strains their ties, pinpointing the crucial issues in their lives.

THE GOSPEL IN THE FEASTS OF ISRAEL by Victor Buksbazen (Christian Literature Crusade, paper, 102 pp., \$1.50, eighth printing) This book was

written in 1954 but is still just as fresh as if it had been written today. Buksbazen's explanation of the customs and practices, as well as the beliefs of the Jewish people, is illuminating and instructive. The book underscores the fact that major New Testament doctrine is clarified, amplified, or illustrated in the Old Testament.

Personally.

An anniversary occurred last week that must not go unnoticed. Mrs. Anne Washburn McWilliams finished 24 years of service to the Baptist Record on May 20.

Anne is such a vital part of this operation that we must let you know of this milestone in her career with this paper. Her contribution to Southern Baptist journalism may never be fully recognized, but it has been outstanding.

This is Anne's last week in the office for about three months. She begins a study leave to learn even more about how to work in her profession.

So, congratulations to Anne on her anniversary and bon voyage on her travels during her study leave.

Diversity Unified

Dear Sir:

While the Bible Belt Buckle may be at Jackson, Mississippi, part of the Belt is out here in the Northern Plains Baptist Convention. Southern Baptists are primarily responsible for the location of the Belt Buckle and the "Rope of sand" unites us. That "rope of sand" is strong enough to withstand the cold of South Dakota and the heat of the White House.

I am writing in response to Mr. Strum's letter published April 21. One's emphasis is determined by one's attitude. I rejoiced when President Carter immediately united with a Southern Baptist Church in Washington and when Amy publicly professed her faith in Jesus Christ and then, through their efforts, were able to win her nurse to Jesus. I followed the political race with interest, especially when Jimmy Carter arranged his campaigning schedule so that he could continue to fulfill his responsibility as teacher in Plains, Ga., and then continue to teach after he moved to Washington.

Out here he has focused attention on a neglected term, "born again," and on our denomination. Both of these have opened doors of opportunity for us to share first the necessity of the new birth and then the amazing way that our convention operates with the authority flowing from the bottom to the top.

I would like to remind Baptists that our Convention grows because we believe in individual freedom and individual responsibility. It is out of diversity unified that we shall continue to grow. I am grateful that both Mr.



Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

Graduation Time

I know just where I was when I heard the news. I was in a small branch post office, just down the street from the old Bedford Hotel in London. It was 1955. I had received a letter and it bore the big news I'd been waiting for so impatiently. I ran down the street toward the hotel, trying to catch up with the rest of the tour group, waving my letter in the air and yelling, "It's a girl! It's a girl!" With puzzled looks, the others turned and asked, "Who? Where?"

"It's a girl," I repeated. How could they be so dumb? "Her name is Karen Elizabeth Brown, and she was born July 6." My sister Betty's new daughter was the first baby in our family; her coming was a big event. This summer she will be 22, and on July 7 she will graduate from Auburn University.

The first time I saw Karen she was in her bassinet at Augusta, Georgia. She was sweet and tiny, her hair a reddish blonde, her eyes a greenish blue. When she cried, a little red patch would appear above one eye. Though afraid I'd drop her, I finally did find the courage to pick her up. As I sat on the front steps with her in late afternoon, I saw her father, Travis, coming home, walking proudly in his soldier's uniform. He held Karen tenderly, a small bundle cradled in his big hands. I thought when I first saw her that she was a darling. And what's more, I still think so.

Before she was seven she had lived in Alabama, Mississippi, Arizona, Texas, Louisiana, and Georgia, but then she settled down in Hogsenville, Georgia. Everywhere she went, her tag-along aunt usually would follow, for at least one visit.

When she was four she liked cats and catalogues, paper dolls and pretty dresses. One day she went with me to a dress shop at Cook Center. She must have tried on ten dresses — pink, yellow, green. Each she handed back to the clerk. I had delayed showing her the most expensive one, black and white with a wide red sash. When she tried it, it was an exact fit. "All right,

Aunt Anne," she said, "I'm ready to go home."

Actually, she's quite a ham, and keeps us all laughing most of the time. But she does have occasional fits of temper. As small children she and her brother, Tom, a year younger, would sometimes have riproaring fights while their younger sister, Luann watched, crying. It was not unknown — and truly a thing to be feared — that if Karen got mad enough she would bite Tom, for she lost her tooth. They stopped fighting and started hunting the tooth. Since they could not find it, no tooth fairy, real or unreal, could visit that night.

Daddy built his grandchildren a swing, tied to the limb of an old chinaberry tree. He would push Karen high, until her toes reached the heights of the crepe myrtle bush.

In the high school band, she played the clarinet, and later was a majorette. In church she sang in the youth choir, often as soloist: When her high school sweetheart went away to Yale, she enrolled at Auburn. There, with determination and part time jobs, she has paid her own way. Last quarter she made the Dean's List.

For an article in *The Circle*, a university publication, she wrote: "I walk into the quietness and stillness of an old country church. Each step I make upon the wooden floor echoes. . . . The memory of the out-of-tune congregation singing loudly on a sunny Sunday morning rings clearly in my ears and I sit down at the old piano. On the benches lie the cardboard fans much worn from use — mostly by my grandmother while I lay asleep in her lap during the sermons. . . . An English major, she last week accepted a job to teach senior English in Hogsenville, where her mother also teaches English.

She has promised that while I'm away for the summer she will be my housekeeper, and perhaps cook for Tom and W. D.

To Karen, and all of you who are the college graduates of 1977, congratulations!

Letters To The Editor

Strum and President Carter are

Southern Baptists along with the rest of us, some good, some bad, depending upon the opinion of others but all of us saved and growing because of our faith in Jesus Christ.

Ken Pickens
Sturgis, South Dakota

We Could Help

Dear Sir:

Several days ago I read an article that appeared on the editorial page of your paper and it is this article that I wish to say something about. I have been in prison for 27 years and in the last 10 years I have done a study on the prison community for this reason, juvenile crimes.

Of course you used the old stand by, the F.B.I. and their reports show an increased percent. What you failed to say is how and where. It is a known fact that the young people of New York, Washington, D.C., Chicago, and all the large cities are more prone to crime than the young people of the rural areas. What your article has and will do is cause panic parent-wise, when, in fact, if you had said that the young people of our country are making great strides in criminal justice and in government you would have caused pride in the parents and thus in the younger people. However your article will bring mistrust and a wider gap in the relationship between parent and child.

In my studies I have reached an understanding that I would like to present to the public. I feel that most crimes can be stopped in the home in

the first 10 years of parent child relationship.

There is a trend in prison among the older convicts that leans towards a desire to help the younger people find their self and firm up a more lasting relationship between parent and child. It seems that the men and women inside prison can relate their past to the present and can see why the young people go astray. If only we could convey our past to these people and show them that their paths are in line with ours, then we would have working space to relate and slow down the ever growing rate of crime that is eating away at our future leaders and parents.

Albert Kenneth Bankston
41124-Hospital (assigned job)
Mississippi State Penitentiary
Parchman, Mississippi-38738

Camping Limited

Dear Sir:

It has been brought to our attention that there have been several inquiries from Southern Baptist Convention messengers regarding the availability of camping facilities in the Kansas City area.

Currently we still have campsites available during the Convention dates. You may want to remind the SBC campers from your state that there are very limited camping facilities in the Kansas City area and an advance reservation will be necessary to assure recreational vehicle accommodations.

Charles C. Francis
TRAILSIDE CAMPERS' INN
OF K.C.

The Baptist Record
515 Mississippi Street
Jackson, Miss 39201

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Official Journal of The
MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST
CONVENTION BOARD
Earl Kelly
Executive Secretary-Treasurer
The Baptist Building
Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205

Baptist Record Advisory Committee: Clarence Wilkerson, Clinton; Gary Holland, Pascagoula; J. B. Fowler, Chairman, McComb; Vance Dyess, Jackson; James Carr, Vice-Chairman, Jackson; Ferrell Cook, Aberdeen.

Subscription \$3.00 a year payable in advance.
Published weekly except week of July 4 and Christmas.
Second Class Postage paid at Jackson, Mississippi.

The Baptist Record is a member of the Southern Baptist Press Association and the Evangelical Press Association.

Mississippi Student Abroad: Untold Journeys

By Thomas D. Maw

As I sit here in my small Journeyman apartment in Brazil, I think back over all of the experiences of my 23 years that have brought me to this country. Surely, you would be interested in knowing a little of the story, Mississippi. Because you are the one, with all of your interest and concern, who brought me here.

Yes, many elements of Mississippi, and more specifically, Mississippi's Southern Baptists, have brought me to Brazil so that I can serve a two-year term employed by our Foreign Mission Board.

I am a Journeyman. That means many things. For me it means teaching M.K.'s. For some other Mississippians that I know it means serving in India, Africa, or the Dominican Re-

public in any number of capacities. Journeyman. Don't let the word fool you! Not only does the word mean filling a job description in another country but it means becoming a part of another culture in order to return to Mississippi and share with you everything possible about your mission work abroad.

I am experiencing many rich journeys every week. Last Monday as our little boat slowly made its way through

a little traveled wilderness of one of the Amazon tributaries, I was very much aware of how fortunate I am. We were returning from a remote church that had just celebrated its seventh anniversary. There I was hesitatingly conversing in Portuguese with a very good friend as we observed the quiet beauty of the jungle. What a rich, but rough, experience the trip had been! The little church has thrived on a limited amount of leadership; but the

small building built by Southern Baptists was crowded for Sunday School.

Yes, for me, being a Journeyman means having grown up in a loving church in Mississippi. It means having had pastors, B.S.U. directors, and Christian parents who were concerned about my spiritual welfare. You see, Mississippi, and it not been for your many elements, I couldn't be here in Brazil sharing Christ with many people who are searching for they

know not what. But I know, and so do you!

This is a challenge for you, Mississippi. Educate your youth about B.S.U.'s, missions, and all other Southern Baptist work. Your efforts will surely come back home.

Thanks, Mississippi, for untold journeys!!!

(NOTE: Thomas Maw's address is Caixa Postal 35, 69100 Itacatiara, Amazonas, Brazil.)

Greenwood Group To Teach VBS In Laurel, Montana

Calvary Church of Laurel, Montana will act as host during June for 18 to 20 young people from First Church, Greenwood. The young people will teach Vacation Bible School, do survey work in that community, and comprise a witness in song.

The group will participate in revival services led by Marsh Pickett, Jr. of Greenwood.

The young people will leave Greenwood June 9 and return June 20. They will be accompanied by Raleigh McGougan, minister of music at First Church; Mr. and Mrs. Marsh Pickett, Jr., pastor of Pleasant Ridge Church; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Shaw, Mrs. Lamar Gray, Mrs. W. L. Williford, Ann Rutledge, and Becky Hambrick.

Carey Plans KC Breakfast

William Carey College Alumni attending the Kansas City Convention are invited to attend the annual alumni breakfast. Scheduled for Wednesday morning, June 15, at 7:45 AM, the breakfast will take place at Center City Holiday Inn in the Benton Room. Reservations should be made in advance if at all possible, according to a request from the Carey Alumni Office.

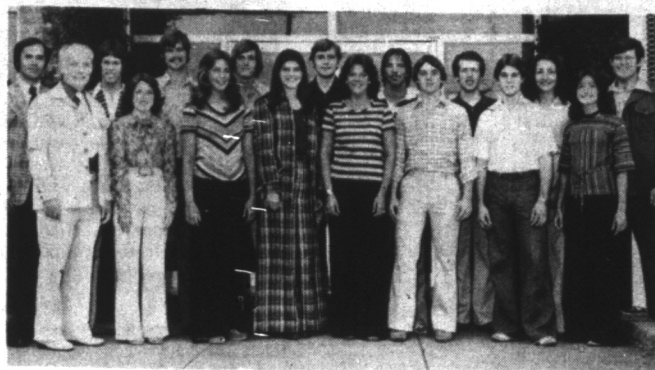
Board Selects Priority...

(Continued from page 1)

church starting effort, Nelson said it is "a massive effort to establish witness points in these counties."

The phase two underevangelized counties: Colorado—Rio Blanco, Moffat, Garfield and Eagle; Ohio—Marion and Morrow; North Dakota—Mercer and Oliver; South Dakota—Minnehaha, Lake Moody, McCook, Lincoln, Union and Clay; Wyoming—Lincoln, Sublette and Sweetwater; Montana—Lake and Missoula; Minnesota—Blue Earth, Freeborn and Mower; Wisconsin—Winnebago; New Mexico—San Juan, Santa Fe, McKinley and Rio Arriba; Utah—Morgan and Salt Lake; Idaho—Washington, Payette, Boise, Gem, Canyon and Ada.

The phase three counties are: Michigan—Houghton and Iron; Illinois—Jo Daviess and Henderson; Indiana—Kosciusko, Whitley, Huntington, Wells, Adams and Allen; Massachusetts—all 14 counties; New York—Genesee, Wyoming and Livingston; Washington—Douglas, Ferry and Lincoln; Oregon—Sherman, Morrow, Wheeler, Grant, Harvey and Malheur.



New BSU Council At MSU

Mississippi State University BSU members have elected their Executive Council, 1977-78. Front row, Raymond Lloyd, First Church, Starkville, pastor advisor; Elisha Adams, Terry; Joy Jennings, Brandon; June Scoggins, associate director of the BSU; Sara Martin, Brandon; Tom Daniel, Jackson; Robby Robertson, Jackson; Jan Thomas, Vicksburg; second row, Jerry Reed, faculty advisor; Scott White, Yazoo City; Wesley Morgan, Aberdeen; Steve Grafton, Pascagoula; Bob Gross, Tupelo; Dell Crosby, Jackson; Mark Cooper, Brooksville, president; Denise Holliman, Caledonia; and Ircel Harrison, BSU director.



Camp Crestridge Opens June 18

RIDGECREST, N. C. — Another summer of backpacking, tennis and horseback riding is scheduled to begin June 18 as the first summer session of Camp Crestridge for Girls gets underway. Camp Crestridge is located 18 miles east of Asheville, N. C., and is part of Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center. The camp offers two four-week sessions. Activities range from cheerleading to overnight campouts. The camp grounds include a lake for swimming, diving, and other water sports. Classes are taught in music, drama, and handicrafts. Planned religious activities are also part of the program. For more information, write Miss Arvine Bell, Director, Camp Crestridge for Girls, Ridgecrest, N. C. 28770.



Pioneers Heading West

(New Orleans) — Pioneers heading West as part of the Bold Mission Thrust program are David Miller (left) of Pascagoula, and his wife Linda and Gwen Williams of Alexandria, La. Paul Stevens, vice president of student affairs at New Orleans Seminary, looks on. The students will spend 10 weeks in Colorado seeking to establish new churches. Transportation, as a stipend for living, will be paid for by the Home Mission Board. Expenses on the field will be borne by the local sponsoring church. The program, involving students from the six seminaries, gives participants six hours of seminary credit.



Bike-A-Thon At Yale Street

Thirty-eight children, young people, and adults, including one grandmother, took part in a bike-a-thon in Cleveland recently. Yale Street Church, Cleveland passed their \$450 Annie Armstrong Offering goal, and gave \$1,376.24, the highest such offering in the church history. The bike-a-thon contributed to the results, according to Bobby Walton, pastor.

Two-County Youth Crusade At Winona

Carroll-Montgomery Association is sponsoring a Buddy Mathis Youth Crusade to be held at the Rodeo Arena in Winona May 29-June 3 at 7:30 p.m.

Buddy Mathis, who entered the ministry while still in high school, will be the evangelist. From Pascagoula, he is a Mississippi College graduate and is now attending New Orleans Seminary. He is the son of Byron Mathis, pastor of Calvary, Pascagoula.

Carey Announces Pre-Pro-Program

A series of one-week concentrated workshops on a variety of professions, the Pre-Pro-Program for high school students at William Carey and ends July 22.

Students may enroll for only one week (exploring a profession in which they already have some interest) or they may enroll for several of the workshops.

The workshops include: June 6-10, medicine and dentistry; June 27-July 1, allied health field; June 20-24, law and law enforcement; July 11-15, church-related professions; July 18-22, engineering, electronics and mathematics opportunities.

Interested students should contact the office of the academic vice-president, William Carey College, Hattiesburg.

MC Breakfast In Kansas City

All Mississippi College alumni attending the Southern Baptist Convention in Kansas City, Missouri, June 13-16, are invited to a complimentary breakfast prior to the Wednesday morning session, June 15.

The continental breakfast will be served between 7:30 and 9 a.m. at the Radisson Muehlebach Hotel just across the street from the Convention Center. All alumni and former students are urged to attend. No formal program is planned.

Hosts for the breakfast will be Van D. Quick, vice-president for student affairs, and Norman H. Gough, director of public relations.

Grenada Sends FMB, HMB, BSU Missionaries

Four young people from First Church, Grenada, have been appointed to missionary service, all within the space of a few weeks.

Kim Johnson was appointed by the Foreign Mission Board as missionary journeyman to Kenya.

Rose Alldridge was appointed by the

Home Mission Board as US-2 missionary to Cincinnati, Ohio.

Howard Williams was appointed by the Home Mission Board as student missionary to Maryland.

Melanie Taylor was appointed by the Mississippi BSU as summer student missionary to Illinois.

Talitha Edwards, another young member of the same church, serves on the National Acteen Advisory Board. John Lee Taylor is pastor.

Kim Johnson, born in Grenada on March 7, 1955, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Travis Johnson. He was one of more than 100 young adults approved for training as missionary journeyman at the April meeting of the Foreign Mission Board. He graduated May 15 from University of Mississippi School of Accounting.

The newly approved journeyman will train for six weeks at Meredith College in Raleigh, N. C. and will be commissioned for overseas service July 22 in Richmond, Va. Johnson is one of six assigned to Kenya, pending training and commissioning.

(Kenya received the largest number of journeyman assignments.)

Rose Alldridge, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Alldridge, was born November 12, 1955. In high school she won first place in the "Voice of America" contest.

A student at Blue Mountain College, she is in the Baptist Student Union Choir, serves as state secretary of the BSU and has served as chaplain. In 1975 she was a summer student missionary in Middletown, Rhode Island, and in the summer of 1976 was summer student missionary in Sutton, Nebraska.

Howard Williams is the son of Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Williams. As a high school student he was on the varsity basketball team.

He is currently a sophomore at University of Mississippi where he is studying accounting. He leads Youth Bible Study at First Church, Grenada,

on Friday nights. In 1975 he went to South Dakota for summer pioneer missions work.

Melanie Taylor, a sophomore at Mississippi College, is a Bible-religious education major. She serves on the BSU Executive Council and as missions leader of the Crippled Chil-

dren's Hospital in Jackson.

Recent honors at MC include Freshman Girl of the Year, Freshman Homecoming Maid, 1st runner-up to Miss Mississippi College, and Sophomore Favorite. She is the daughter of John Lee Taylor, pastor at First, Grenada, and Mrs. Taylor.

State Baptist Editor To Address Writers

NASHVILLE — Robert J. Hastings, editor of the Illinois Baptist and author of several books, will be the featured speaker at a general writers' workshop June 27 - July 1 at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

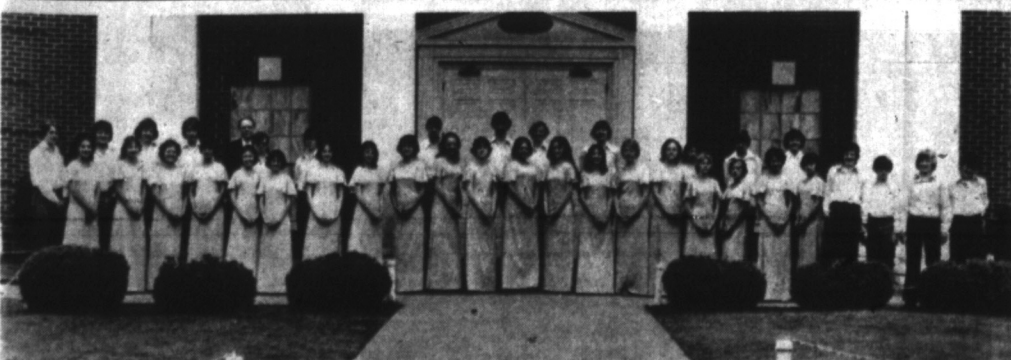
In addition to serving as editor of the news magazine for Illinois Baptists, Hastings is the author of a manual for beginning writers entitled How I

Write. Other books include We Were There, an oral history of the Illinois Baptist State Association, and A Nickel's Worth of Skimmed Milk, which won an award of merit from the Illinois State Historical Society.

The five-day conference in the Sunday School Board's Church Program Training Center will offer several to-

pics of special interest, including curriculum for Board periodicals.

The workshop begins on Monday evening and concludes Friday morning. A \$30 registration fee covers two meals and all necessary study materials. To register, write the Church Program Training Center, 127 Ninth Ave., North, Nashville, Tenn. 37234.



The 40-voice youth touring choir under direction of David Grimsley, minister of music, will sing at the following churches May 28-June 4: Oakview Church, Irving, Texas; First Meridian Church, Comanche, Okla.; Immanuel Church, Fort Smith, Ark.; First Church, Eldon, Missouri; Lindenwood Church, St. Louis; First Church, Kennett. They will see the Passion Play in Eureka Springs, Ark. James Messer is pastor.

Involuntary Worship

Parents as well as children often fail to realize that worship, like love, must be given freely.

My parents always force me to go to church. If I don't go, they put me on restriction. I'm 15 and I do believe in God—but in my own way. I think if they'd just leave me alone I could get it all together.

It is difficult to find a meaningful relationship with God when you feel you are being forced into it. The results are usually not pleasing either to parents or to teens. The tendency is for the child to rebel against the parents by proxy; that is, rebelling against God.

If, however, you decide that your most important relationship is between you and God, regardless of what others say or do, you can and will find what you are looking for. But that is your decision.

Why not give church a real second chance? Concentrate on making the most of the time you spend in worship. It could be that you will find your own special brand of faith. This would please God and you, and it probably would not hurt matters at home either. Your parents might even begin to realize that faith is voluntary and then start taking hands off.

A weekly radio program for youth broadcast nationwide by So. Baptist Radio-TV Commission. For information write POWERLINE, Fort Worth, Texas 76116. Dr. J. P. Allen, Director, Audience Response

POWERLINE

Names In The News

Walter Sisco was recently ordained to the gospel ministry in ceremonies at Mt. Zion Church, Brookhaven.



He is now serving as pastor of the Clear Branch Church (Lincoln). Clyde Little, pastor at Forest and former pastor at Mt. Zion, preached the ordination sermon. Sisco is the son of Mrs. Mitchell Sisco and the late Mitchell Sisco. Born in Lincoln County, he is married to the former Yvonne Newell of the Mt. Zion community. They have two children, Danny, 16, and Tammy, 14.

Chris Jenkins has accepted the call to be minister of music for Oakland Heights Church, Meridian, James Parker, pastor. He has resigned his post as minister of music and youth director at Pelahatchie Church. He and his wife, Brenda, plan to move to Meridian in late June.

David Rogers, associate pastor in charge of youth ministries at First Church, Columbia, has accepted a call to First Church, Greenville, as family life minister.



Rogers received the Master of Divinity degree from New Orleans Seminary May 14. He is married to the former Mary Sue Williamson of Fort Walton Beach, Florida. They have a four year old son, Kevin and another child due in September.

James Lowe, ministerial student who is graduating from William Carey College this month, is available for pulpit supply, interim or full-time pastorate, or evangelistic work. He plans to enter New Orleans Seminary this fall. Age 29 and single, he may be addressed at Route 3, Box 163, Picayune, Ms. 39466 (phone 798-2685). Lowe is a member of Union Church, Picayune, G. A. McCoy, pastor.



The Ministerial Alliance at Blue Mountain College has elected officers for 1977-78 with James L. Travis as faculty advisor and sponsor. Officers on front row, left to right are, David Allen, Baptist Student Union representative, pastor, Dumas Church; Larry Williams, president, pastor, New Hope Church, Tupelo; and Mike Smith, sports director, pastor, Doty Chapel, Shannon. Back row, arranged left to right, Randy Mobley, vice-president, New Prospect Church, Olive Branch; and Chris Hall, secretary-treasurer, pastor, Mt. Olive Church, Ripley.

An addition and two promotions characterize major personnel changes announced to the trustees at the Southern Baptist Annuity Board, Dallas, Tex., April 27. Darold H. Morgan, president of the Board, said former Dallas realtor Donald R. Floyd was named acting director of the pension and insurance planning agency's Insurance Services Department. Richard Farr, assistant director of the Annuity Board's Member Services Division for nine years, was promoted to director of Administrative Services. At the same time, Luther Harbison was named assistant director of Member Services to succeed Farr.

John Webb has been called as pastor of the Mineral Wells Church in Mineral Wells. He is the son of Mrs. Olive C. Webb of Memphis. He is married to the former Elisa Kay Broyles, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Howard E. Broyles, also of Memphis. The Webbs have one daughter, Rachael.

Leonard Holloway has retired from the pastorate of Oak Grove Church (Neshoba). He plans to serve in an effort to establish a mission in Ohio.

Olyn Roberts has resigned from the pastorate of East Philadelphia Church.

Jim Hall has accepted the pastorate of Second Church, Tupelo. He has pastored Calvary Church in Calhoun County for 5½ years. He graduated from Mid-America Seminary May 17. He is married to the former Ann Edwards. They have three children: James, pastor of County Line Church in Pontotoc County; Curtis, 19; and Teresa, 12.



Robert M. Hanvey, pastor of Easthaven Church, Brookhaven, received the Doctor of Ministry degree from New Orleans Seminary during graduation exercises May 14. A native of Alabama, he completed his college work at Jacksonville State and his previous seminary work at New Orleans Seminary. Earlier this year he was selected to appear in Who's Who in Religion.

David Wilkerson is the new pastor of Antioch Church (Neshoba).

First Church, Columbia, has called Bernie O. Parker as minister of music. He goes to Columbia from the Moffett Road Church, Mobile, Ala. Prior to Mobile he served First Church, Clanton, Ala., and First Church, Ozark, Ala. Parker is married to the former Marilyn Sue Bryan of Laurel. They have two children, Lori and Bryan. Pastor of First Church, Columbia, is J. Roy McComb.

David R. Clark has been called as pastor of Greenbrook Church, Southaven. Son of Mr. and Mrs. David M. Clark of Ripley, Tennessee, he is married to the former Linda Prideaux, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen D. Prideaux of Rochell, Illinois. The Clarks have three children.

David Lee has accepted the position as director of music at Second Church, Tupelo. His wife is the former Sherry Brown of Calhoun City. He is the son of Marvin K. Lee, director of missions, Pearl River County.

Jerry Lundy is to move on the field soon as new pastor at Fellowship (Neshoba).

Lula Tardy, 92, Is Still A Royal Ambassador Counselor

LEXINGTON, Va. (BP) — Are you ready for this?

Lula B. Tardy is a 92-year-old Royal Ambassador (RA) boys counselor at Manley Memorial Baptist Church here.

Moreover, she has worked with the Southern Baptist Brotherhood organization for boys (first grade through high school) some 50 years, including some 36 years when Woman's Missionary Union had the responsibility. The Brotherhood took over RAs in the 1950s.

She presently is counselor for seven boys at Manley Memorial Church, but in times past it was common for some 45 boys to meet six times monthly in her home.

Talk about active—four afternoons each week the RAs still come to her house to do their ranking work. And, occasionally, she has the boys bring their sleeping bags to spend the night at her house. But she thinks she may have to stop that.

"I had them over one night and they were still talking and carrying on at

3:15 a.m. . .," she laughs.

Mrs. Tardy, a member of Manley Memorial 83 years, was 18 when she started her own private school, launching a career as a teacher and

tutor that was to last 75 years—so far. "I began learning the Bible when I was five-years old," she says. — Adapted from the June 1977 issue of Probe magazine.

Christian Home Month To End With A Wedding

Christian Home Month at Harpington Church, Como, will end with a wedding. On Sunday, May 29, fourteen couples will renew their wedding vows at the church. Then Candy Nelson and Danny Patterson will pledge their wedding vows to each other for the first time.

"Happy Days in May" is the theme for the month-long Harpington emphasis. Pastor Don Stanfill is preaching each Sunday on the topic, "The Christian Home." Individual families are presenting special gospel music at each worship service during the month.

On Sunday evening, May 22, Candy Nelson presented an "Evening Musical" of gospel songs.

On Mother's Day, corsages were given to Mrs. Bessie Bailey, 79, the oldest mother present; Mrs. Doris Crawford, mother with the most family members present (15); and Mrs. Teresa Mitchell, 25, the youngest mother present.

66 Attend Retreat For Exceptional Persons



Barbara Massey and Mrs. Merle Crumpton lead the younger group in their talent show.



A group of older persons gave a production titled "Springtime." Left to right: Frank Garrison, Mary Nell-Byrd, Toni Smith, Eason Smith, Kendall Cart.

Sixty-six persons attended "Springtime Discoveries," a retreat for exceptional persons, their parents, and teachers at Camp Garaywa, May 13-14.

Conferences for parents and adults were led by Doris Morgan, consultant, Work with Mentally Retarded, North Carolina Baptist Convention, and Mrs. Doris Monroe, consultant, Work with Exceptional Persons, Sunday School Board, Nashville.

Activities for exceptional persons included: entertainment by the Washboard Band, a group of ladies from Morrison Heights Church, Clinton; and a Campfire with Joe Richardson, First Church, Terry, playing his guitar and singing and leading in a devotional time.

Smokey Bear came to Garaywa Saturday morning with a representative from the Miss. Forestry Commis-

sion. Teaching sessions for the exceptional persons were led by Barbara Massey, Janice Lee, Mrs. Merle Crumpton, and Pete McCraw with the youngest group, and Mrs. Thomas F. Bryant, Mrs. David Hester, Tommi Bryant, David Allen, and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Kershner with the older groups.

A talent show was one of the highlights with the boys and girls singing and acting in a production on springtime.

The retreat was sponsored by the Church Training Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, under the direction of Evelyn George, consultant. This same type of retreat will be held again next year at Garaywa, on May 12 and 13.



Barbara Massey, left, and Janice Lee, right, two of the conference leaders, talk with Evelyn George, consultant, Church Training Department, MBCB, and director of the retreat.



Mrs. Bill Kershner helps Betty Jean Morgan who enjoyed the retreat from her wheelchair.



Mrs. T. F. Bryant, teacher of the older group, gets ready for the talent show.



Southside Church staff—E. C. Harpe, minister of music; Fred Fowler, pastor; Thomas Titus, associate pastor.



Building Committee—Earl Donahoe, chairman, Martin Bounds, Michael Powell, Harold Boutwell, S. R. Davis, Marvin Williams, Mrs. Nita Herrington, Mrs. Irene Hughes, and R. P. Redd.

Ed Grayson, Minister For Fifty Years, Dies At 80

By Mrs. Carl Harper, WMU Director Mt. Gilead Church

Ed F. Grayson, loved and respected minister of the gospel for over 50 years, died in March at the home of his daughter in Demopolis, Ala. Services were held in Meridian, with H. V. Sollie conducting the services.

Grayson was born in the Montrose community south of Meridian on April 22, 1897. He attended school in a small one-room house with one teacher for all grades.

On December 24, 1918 he married his childhood sweetheart, Betty Boles. They had two sons, two daughters, nine grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren. Their youngest son, Roy, gave his life for his country in Korea. Their oldest son, retired Marine Col. Ed F. Grayson, Jr., was assistant chief of staff of logistics of all fleet forces in the Pacific.

The oldest daughter, Estelle, lives in New York, and the youngest, Annie Mae, lives in Demopolis.

In May 1916 Grayson was baptized at Eighth Avenue Church, Meridian. In July 1925 he surrendered to preach and

was licensed. He was called to his first pastorate, Mt. Gilead, in 1927. During World War II he was at one time serving four churches, some having services Saturday nights and Sunday afternoons.

He held continuous pastorates, in East Central Mississippi and West Alabama during his 50 years as a minister.

He was always mindful of any need, however small, willing and able to offer spiritual, as well as physical assistance.

As the old saying goes, "Brother Ed practiced what he preached."

In the final analysis, this great Christian's real and lasting contributions to his fellow man have been to teach us that Christianity is more than written words in a book. He received the greatest gift a human being could receive—the love, respect, and hearts of all who knew him.



Grayson

Revival Dates

Southside Church, Jackson: May 29-June 3; Anis Shorosh, native of Nazareth, Israel, music under direction of E. C. Harpe, minister of music, at Southside; Fred Fowler, pastor; Monday through Friday at 12 noon and at 7 p.m. (At the noon service sandwiches will be served); Sunday Services to include a Men's Prayer Breakfast at 7:30 a.m., 9:45 a.m. Bible Study, 11 a.m. Worship, 6 p.m. Church Training, and 7 p.m. evening worship.

Benolt Church: May 29 - June 3; James A. Hurt, pastor, Immanuel Church, Cleveland, evangelist; Tom Larimore, Jackson, music evangelist; services Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; during week at 7 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Glenn Byrd, pastor.

Vaiden Church: May 29 - June 3; Sunday services 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; week-day services 10:30 a.m. and 7:45 p.m.; James Fancher, evangelist; J. B. Betts and daughter Marsha in charge of the music; John A. Wade, pastor.

Tuckers Crossing Church, Laurel: May 22-27; Harold Ishee, preaching; Thomas Winn, leading the singing; B. Aaron Foy, pastor.

Southside To Build New Sanctuary

Southside Church, Jackson, Fred Fowler, pastor, observed groundbreaking services recently for a sanctuary and family life center. This will include an auditorium with a seating capacity of 750, the choir with a seating capacity of 60, a suite of offices, conference room, library, choir room, and adult Sunday School space. The Family Life Center will include a gym, game and craft room, kitchen activity director's office and multipurpose rooms. Architects are Brumfield and Hopton.

Last fall the church was challenged to give sacrificially to reach a goal of \$163,000 during a "Together We Build" campaign.

CHURCH BUSES

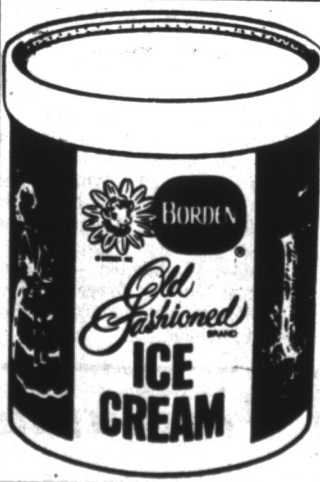
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Just For The Record



Homecoming will be observed at White Oak Church (Smith) on May 29. Services will begin at 10:30 and will include singing by special groups. The guest speaker for the morning service will be John Alexander, Jackson, a former interim pastor. Lunch will be served in the fellowship hall.

In the afternoon there will be singing, testimonies, history highlights, and special recognition. A special offering will be received for maintenance of the cemetery.

Arlington Church (Lincoln) will on May 29 observe homecoming, memorial day, and building fund day. Services will begin with Sunday School at 10, morning worship at 11, followed by an old-fashioned dinner on the ground. The afternoon service will be under direction of a former music director, Douglas Moak of Baton Rouge. It will be a program of Gospel Singing. Bob Ammons is pastor.

First Church, Ozona; near Carriere; May 29 - June 6; dinner on the grounds and singing in the afternoon on May 29; Dale Patterson, Roseland Park Church, evangelist; John Greater, pastor; Ray Beall, song leader.

The whole creation is on tiptoe to see the wonderful sight of the sons of God coming into their own. — ROMANS 8:19 (Phillips)

Eupora To Build Pastor's Home

First Church of Eupora broke ground on May 8, to begin construction of a pastor's home.

The congregation gathered at the building site, on the corner of Gold Street and Clark Avenue, to dedicate the ground to the Lord for this purpose. Participating in the ceremony were O. O. Scott, the oldest member of the congregation, and Cheryl Miller, the youngest member. Cheryl is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wilton Mil-

ler. Mrs. L. W. Harpole was there to share in the service. She has been a member of First Church, Eupora, for 77 years, longer than any other person living today.

Dean Hall, chairman of deacons, W. H. Yates, chairman of the Building Committee, along with Building Committee members, Glenn Booth, Kimbrew Carroll, Robert Miller, Mrs. Reginald Nabors, and Mrs. U. G. Sones shares in breaking the ground for the proposed structure.



Front: seated, Mrs. L. W. Harpole, standing, Cheryl Miller. Back row, left to right, Kimbrew Carroll, Mrs. Reginald Nabors, Mrs. U. G. Sones, O. O. Scott, Robert Miller, William S. Stewart, pastor, Mrs. William S. Stewart, W. H. Yates, Glenn Booth and Dean Hall.

The annual homecoming of Antioch Church in Simpson County will be held on May 29. There will be a dinner on the ground and a program of afternoon music.

George L. Lewis, pastor, will bring the morning message. Offerings received will go toward the upkeep of the cemetery.

New Hope (Lafayette) will have homecoming the first Sunday in June. Ira S. Perkins, director of missions, Covington, Tenn., will preach at 11 a.m.

Sonny Smith will be the song leader with Mrs. Joyce Davis and Marie Smith as pianists.

"Lunch will be served, followed by singing and fellowship in afternoon," says J. W. Massie, Sardis, pastor.

Friendship Church, Brookhaven, will observe homecoming day on Sunday, May 29. Lewis Curtis, a former pastor, will preach at both morning and afternoon services. Lunch will be served at the church. Wiley Reid is the pastor.

Rock Hill Church, Brandon, will have annual homecoming day on May 29. C. C. Carraway, a former pastor, will bring the message at 11 a.m. Lunch will be served at the church. Singing and fellowship will be featured in the afternoon. Robert L. Jones is pastor and Gale Martin is director of music.

Revival Results

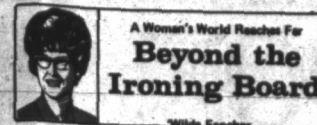
Forest Church: May 8-13; James Fancher, Jackson, evangelist; Huel Moseley, music director; Clyde Little, pastor; 17 professions of faith; one by letter; 62 rededications.



McDowell Road Church, Jackson, has in six years helped to establish and to build three churches in Mexico — at Las Conchas, Vada de Piedra, and Ruidosa-Los Barroncos.

McDowell Road Plans Seventh Summer Mission Trip To Mexico

McDowell Road Church, Jackson, is planning a seventh summer mission trip to Mexico. In preparation for this,



A Woman's World Reaches For Beyond the Ironing Board With Fancher

Time has some strange ways. Sometimes it goes very fast; others very slowly. Looking at a segment of time that has been a segment of life often has its joys, as it does its sadnesses. When the school bell rings for the final time this year, it will close the segment of my life that has been full-time teaching. It seems time to rearrange some of the priorities, and as long as I teach, that must be first priority. Later I may put teaching first, but now some other priorities exist.

My time with my parents has been too little lately, so I will now have time and energy, at the same time, to go to be with them. Writing has taken a back seat for a long time. Now I will have some time to write at the same time I have the mental energy to write. These two pleasant responsibilities which have not had their fair share of my time and energy will now have it. They are the two that have been pushed aside by my teaching career. My family responsibilities and my church responsibilities I have been able to handle along with teaching.

I am happy that we have the faith to rearrange my life. It is not easy to see exactly how our bank is going to get along without my monthly check. I'll probably have to be very patient with them! Anyway, I'm exercising some of that faith that I feel, knowing that my heavenly Father knows best what I need before I even ask Him.

It is not easy to measure what a segment of your life has meant to you or to those with whom you have spent it. You spend it doing what you know is God's will for your life at that time. Then you rejoice in a new segment, and leave the measuring to Him.

Humanly, so far as teaching goes, you settle for, "Mrs. Fancher, I surely am glad you made us learn all that vocabulary stuff in Latin. College has been easier because of it," or, "Gee, Mrs. Fancher, I sure hope you change your mind before school starts."



New Pastor At Emmanuel

Emmanuel Church of Columbia has called Nelson Crozier as pastor. He and his family, pictured, have moved on the field. Crozier was formerly pastor of Simmons Memorial Church, Flora, for two years.

He and his wife, Vivian, have two children, Marci, four, and Kevin, 16 months.

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BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 7
Thursday, May 26, 1977

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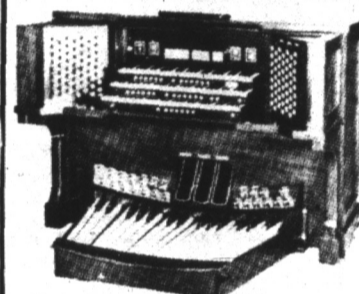
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BR 2

JUNE, 1977

Sunday School	Conduct Operation Home Study. This is an annual plan for individual study of a book in the Church Study Course by church-elected workers in Sunday School. The recommended book for 1977 is "The Life and Ministry of Our Lord," by Ray F. Robbins. Resource: OUTREACH, June 1977. Vacation Bible Schools, Backyard Bible Clubs and Mission Vacation Bible Schools.
Church Training	CHURCH: THE SUNDAY NIGHT PLACE. Plans should be made no later than June for the church promotion of "CHURCH: THE SUNDAY NIGHT PLACE." July-September is preparation time with October scheduled as Lift-Off Month. See promotion plan distributed to pastors and directors in April.
Church Music	Music Partners Sharing. Several plans through which one church can offer assistance to another through loan of resources and personnel, etc. HYMN OF THE MONTH: "When Morning Glids the Skies," page 44, New Hymnal.
Evangelism	Lay Evangelism Schools. WOW (Youth Evangelism) Retreats (Write Evangelism Department, Jackson, Ms. for information) Church Revivals.
Church Administration	SELECT, ELECT AND TRAIN CHURCH COUNCIL Purpose: Elected early and trained in order that they may have time to plan next year's work by October 1. Resources: A Dynamic Church, Baptist Book Store; The Church Council pamphlet (See undated material order form)
Stewardship	Order individual boxed offering envelopes for next year. Send quarterly record of contributions to each member. Enclose a "Thank You" folder. Distribute stewardship or Cooperative Program tract at morning worship service. Show a stewardship filmstrip in department assemblies.
Christian Action Commission	Finalize plans for Christian Citizenship Sunday. Consider the Christian Action Commission suggestions received prior to June 1.

Appreciation Day For The Jolleys

G. E. Jolley and Mrs. Jolley were honored with an appreciation day on Sunday, May 1, by the Panola Association. More than a hundred people came to the Baptist Center during the afternoon to express gratitude to the Jolleys for seven years of faithful service in Panola County.

The Baptist Center was appropriately prepared by the WMU of First Batesville. A generous gift of money was presented to the Jolleys by the moderator, Robert E. Self.

SCRAPBOOK



Then Shall all the trees of the wood sing
for joy
before the Lord. . . (Ps. 97:12-13). — RNS Photo.

Request

Great Teacher,
you can take away these scales from
my eyes, if you only wish.
You have given to others
new feet to walk
and broken the spell
of raging mad men.
You have loosed tongues
that were long silent.

and even raised the lifeless
from the grave.
Would it be too much
just to speak the word
and make these scales fall off?
You can do this for me
if you will.

Then the Master replied:
"I will" just look around!"

—Hafford Berry

Leighton Ford 'Generally Conceded' To Be Billy Graham's Successor In Evangelism

MINNEAPOLIS (RNS) — What will happen to the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association when Billy Graham is no longer on the scene?

The question was asked when some 100 persons attending the national convention of the Religious Public Relations Council were guests of the Graham association at the Graham world headquarters.

Victor B. Nelson, an association official who presided at a luncheon, said it is "generally conceded" that Leighton Ford, Mr. Graham's associate evangelist and his brother-in-law, "will step into the central harness

if Mr. Graham should close his ministry."

Dr. Ford, he noted, preaches as often as the famed evangelist on the association's "Hour of Decision" and has a similar style.

But Dr. Nelson emphasized that Mr. Graham "intends to keep going as long as his strength permits."

He said the effectiveness of any successor to Mr. Graham would depend on whether he has "God's blessing" as he said Mr. Graham has.

Billy Graham, he said, "still is well accepted," receiving some 5,000 requests to speak last year. He said the

Mocking Bird In Rain

For days we've had rain!
It is dark and gloomy and drear;
The garden is a floating pond;
The roof might leak, I fear.

The weatherman just said
There'll be a few more days of this!
I see the drippings from the eaves
And this is when I wish he'd miss.

Then from the crepe myrtle I hear
A mocking bird's familiar song.
The melody about the rain. . .
Beautiful and clear and strong.

If mocking birds can sing
Amid showers and clouded skies
Where leaking roofs and ponds
abound,
Then why can't you and I?

The song I hear about the rain
Reminds that even on our cloudy days
God loves and cheers and gives a
song.
To Him we owe our praise.

—Victoria Singley

Worship

It is in the heart of the performer
rather than by sound of voice
or skill on instrument
The true spirit of worship
can be found.

And even then, only God knows.

—Victor R. Vaughn

Missionaries On Furlough

Missionaries now on furlough in Mississippi are:

Parkes and Martha Ellen Marler, Guam, 715 East Northside Drive, Jackson; Edward and Freda Trott, Brazil, 208 East Main St., Clinton; Bill and Carolyn Smith, 3331 Old Canton Road, Jackson.

Mary Jo Stewart, Ecuador, Edgewood Terrace, Apartment E-11, 220 Edgewood Terrace, Jackson; Steven and Minnie Hicks, Mexico, 100 Georgia Ave., Hattiesburg; J. D. and Ethel Batson, Brazil, Route 2, Box 36, Wiggins; James and Dorothy Gilbert, Ecuador, 1000 Lake Shore Drive, Box 15, Brandon.

Stanley and Glenna Stamps are to arrive this month from Nicaragua, and Billy and Terry Peacock next month from Korea.

Off The Record

Small Fry Diary: "They caught the thief that stole the car parked in the cemetery. He said he thought the owner was dead." — Nonnee Coan.

A traveling businessman went to a pet shop for an exotic animal to keep his wife company during his long trips. And for \$500 he bought a pet the storekeeper called a Rarey.

The man's wife loved the tiny ball of fur. "I love my Rarey," she would say. And the man went off on a three day trip.

When he returned the Rarey had grown to fill the entire living room. And his wife stroked the animal's fur, saying, "I love my Rarey."

He left town a few days later and upon his return in a week, the animal had grown to fill the entire front yard. And you know what the wife was saying.

That night he determined to get rid of this enormous creature that was eating him out of house and home. So he rented a dump truck and loaded the Rarey on the back and took it to the high cliffs on the edge of town.

As he backed the truck to the edge and reached for the dump lever, he heard a noise from the back. He walked around to the back and said, "Did I hear you speak? What did you say?"

The creature looked down over the cliff and back at the man and said, "It's a long way to tip-a-Rarey."

Devotional

Ministry Of The Holy Spirit

By W. Everette Martin
Pastor, First, Ridgeland

We worship a triune God. God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. One is just as real as the other.

However, I feel that there has been much misunderstanding concerning the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus gives to us some statements which clarify the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

"But when the Comforter (Holy Spirit) is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of Truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of Me" (John 15:26).

According to the truth of Jesus, as given in the above verse, the main ministry of the Holy Spirit is to testify of Jesus.

The Holy Spirit in testifying of Jesus is engaged in a three-fold ministry.

"And when he is come, he will 1) reprove the world of sin, 2) and of righteousness, and 3) of judgment" (John 16:8).

The Holy Spirit does not seek to call attention to Himself. The person who is controlled (filled) with the Holy Spirit will not endeavor to call attention to himself. Neither will this person try to make others feel inferior.

The Holy Spirit is God, therefore He does not change. All Scripture was given by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Any time you find in the Scripture a message of truth concerning the behavior of a person under the control of the Holy Spirit, you can be assured that the Holy Spirit will not lead a person today to behave in contradiction to the teaching of the Word of God.

The Holy Spirit wants all the glory to be given to Jesus. "He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you" (John 16:14).

The Holy Spirit will reprove the world of—1) SIN — We must remember that "Jesus was made to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him" (II Cor. 5:21).

The only way that a person will ever come to know what sin is and what sin does and what the wages of sin is, is for the Holy Spirit to tell him. The Holy Spirit speaks to us on every subject that relates to sin in the Word of God.

The Holy Spirit tells us how awful sin really is.

II. Righteousness—The Holy Spirit will tell and does tell us of the only righteousness that is acceptable unto God. Here again He testifies of Jesus.

"Therefore as by the offense of one (Adam) judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one (Christ) the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life" (Rom. 5:18).

"For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth" (Rom. 10:4).

The Holy Spirit is the only one who can turn a man from sin unto righteousness. We can preach, teach, witness and all the rest, but it is the Holy Spirit that reveals Jesus. This is His ministry.

III. Judgment. The judgment is not to determine where we spend eternity. This has already been determined by our acceptance or rejection of the testimony of the Holy Spirit concerning sin and Jesus.

The saved will appear at the judgment seat of Christ to receive their rewards. The lost will appear at the Great White Throne Judgment to be sentenced with their degrees of punishment in the Lake of Fire.

We all need to listen to the Holy Spirit's testimony of Jesus.

Seminary Didn't Tell You

NEW YORK (EP) — Two men, assuming that most clergymen are ignorant about practical matters, have launched a monthly newsletter advising ministers about "everything they didn't tell you in seminary about running a church."

The periodical advises on everything from how to evict noisy intruders from worship services legally to tips on deducting vacation expenses from income taxes, listings of toll-free telephone numbers and more satisfactory sleep habits that can lead to increased productivity.

Titled Church Business Report, the newsletter bills itself as a tool "almost like a team of high-paid business consultants working for you."

Sunday School Lesson: International For May 29

Features Of An Enduring Faith

By Wm. J. Fallis
James 5:7-20

Quite often in his brief epistle James called attention to the weaknesses and sins of the Jewish Christians to whom he was writing.

But here in the last chapter he turned on those who made life hard for the believers. In the manner of Micah and Amos he expressed a prophetic wrath on rich men who would not pay their workers, who lived in luxury while their poor workers starved and died. Despite the influence and power of the rich men, in God's time their riches would rot and their garments be moth-eaten because they "kept back by fraud" the wages which the poor had earned. James knew he could only condemn; he was powerless to change the situation. But he could help the wronged to endure by faith, and this lesson points out three features of persistent faith.

The Lesson Explained

PRACTICE PATIENCE (vv. 7-11)

Really the word patience here means more than just waiting; it means to endure without complaining. It requires both physical strength and faith. When the Lord would come, the struggle against injustice would end because he would bring victory over evil. James did not say when that would be, but he used the farmer to illustrate the patience needed to await that day. "The early and latter rain" refers to the planting and harvesting seasons; in between, the farmer can only wait for the seed to grow. James urged his readers to practice that kind of patience. "Keep your hopes high" (TEV), "for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh." Early Christians hoped it would be soon, but New Testament writers urged patience because it was—and still is—in God's hands alone.

In verse 9 James warned them against letting impatience lead them to grumble and have a mean spirit toward one another. The Judge is within hearing distance. Then James referred to the prophets as examples of patience, and to Job as the outstanding example of endurance. In the end he was vindicated because "the Lord is full of pity and compassion" (NEB).

PRAY FOR ALL (vv. 12-18)

These six verses stress the truth that prayer is appropriate in a wide range of needs. Surely it is the Christian's reaching out to God while practicing patience, an act with great potential. To offset the discouragement caused by suffering, James urged that person to pray. On the other hand, let him who is happy sing praises to God. In either case, the person should worship.

Then James focused on a specific situation. A sick church member could request that the elders visit him for prayer. Following the pattern in the Jewish community, these elders were probably men who had the respect of the congregation because of their age and wisdom. The oil could have medicinal effect, but it was probably used symbolically "in the name of the Lord." The elders were not called "faith-healers," nor did the oil have

miraculous qualities. The key was "the prayer of faith" matching the power of the Lord. Because many people thought sickness and sin were related, the prayer would also seek forgiveness. While James was not saying that all illness could be cured by prayer, he urged believers to seek God's help in sickness and in sin. "Powerful is the heartfelt supplication of a righteous man" (Weymouth).

RECLAIM THE WAYWARD (vv. 19-20)

It is easy to think that these verses deal with winning the lost because of the words convert and sinner, but verse 19 is clear that James was writing of his "brethren." If one of them should stray from the truth, another should try to "turn" or "bring him back." In doing so, he would save the straying one from death and "cause a

great number of sins to be forgiven" (TEV). Some people argue these are the sins of the seeking brother, but the more likely meaning is to the sins of the straying brother. To hide or cover sins means to be forgiven.

At Midwestern

Sanford R. Beckett will be awarded the Doctor of Ministry degree from Midwestern Seminary, Kansas City,

Mo. on May 28. Beckett has been associate minister at the University Baptist Church, Hattiesburg since 1972.



Natchez To Build Family Life Center

First Church of Natchez broke ground, April 10, for a \$1,500,000 Family Life Center and Education Building. The buildings will contain a worship center, choir suite, facilities for a full family recreation program, multi-sized dining-fellowship-reception areas, kitchen, library, offices, and education space for all ages. Left to right: Ken Miller, minister of music; W. Kelly Pyron and Paul G. Green, co-chairmen of Building Committee; Mrs. Eunice Hoyland and Kenneth Moss, members of Building Committee; Neron Smith, minister of education, and Odean W. Puckett, pastor.



Sunday School Lesson: Life and Work For May 29

Christianizing Our Priorities And Our Goals

By Bill Duncan,
First, Long Beach
I Timothy 6:6-19

Oliver Wendell Holmes reminded us that "the greatest thing in this world is not so much where we are, but in what direction we are moving."

Our priorities will determine our goals in life. The real goals of life may be affluence, security, happiness, freedom or many others that our world calls important. However, for the Christian, his goals in life are different. In I Timothy 6:11, Paul says "pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance, and gentleness." These are the means to true happiness. The happy man is the man who stands in a relationship of obedience to God. Only God can give us lasting happiness.

"But godliness actually is a means

of great gain, when accompanied by contentment." The idea of contentment describes a frame of mind which was completely independent of all outward and external things and carried the secret of happiness within itself. Contentment never comes from the possession of external things but from an inward attitude to life. There is no special virtue in being poor, and there is no happiness in having to struggle to make ends meet.

Happiness comes from two things. Happiness always comes from personal relationships. All the things in the world will not make a man happy if he knows neither friendship nor love. Happiness concentrates upon the things which are permanent, the things that a man can take with him when he dies.

Contentment comes when we escape the servitude to things. When we find our wealth in the love of others, we realize that our most precious possessions cannot be bought.

Helen Hayes tells in her autobiography, A Gift of Joy, how one time while traveling on a train she was asked to go to a private compartment

and visit with a dying woman. This woman was in the last stages of tuberculosis. She had been a successful ballroom dancer with the usual string of admirers and had a pretty collection of jewelry. Conversation was impossible because it would exhaust the sick woman. Miss Hayes was required to help her through the daily ritual of examining each piece of jewelry. The pretense of delight was undoubtedly one of the finer performances of the actress. The woman would hold up each jewel and then study Miss Hayes' face for reaction. Here was a dying woman with nothing to show for her life, nothing to hang onto but a box of hard, bright objects which now amounted to no more than playthings.

To seek to be independent, to be able to pay one's debts, to provide for one's family is a Christian duty. But to evaluate everything in terms of money, to make the love of money the driving-force of life, cannot ever be anything else than the most perilous of sins.

Why should it matter what are our priorities in life? The very fact that Timothy was addressed as "Man of

God" would make him square his shoulders and throw his head back as one who has received his commission from the King. He was challenged by the honor which was his, the honor of being God's man.

"Choose the right goals in life" is the advice that Timothy received. Flee from wrong goals as if they were a ferocious beast. Follow the virtues and the noble qualities which are set forth as righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness and gentleness. Loving God means making these qualities our priorities or goals. Are these your priorities?

Once a priority is set for life, then prepare to fight. It is a struggle to keep one's priorities straight. The truth of the matter is that it gets harder. Paul says not only to fight but to "lay hold" which is a step by step occupation of the territory accepted by faith. This does not describe a lighthearted approach to Christianity. This is commitment. This is warfare.

Timothy holds the title "Man of God" but he will have to prove it. He is to lay hold of the very life to which he is called. The tastes we cultivate and the

appetites we encourage are set by our priorities in life.

"Obey your orders!" Paul reminded young Timothy that at his confession of faith he promised to discharge his responsibility and to be found faithful doing his job when the Lord returned. At the return of Jesus Christ the Christian will have to give an account of his stewardship.

Herschel Hobbs says that he once knew a man who was the youngest man in Oklahoma City ever to make a million dollars. When the First Baptist Church built a new building costing \$250,000, he gave \$25,000 — one-tenth of the cost. Later in the Great Depression of the 1930's, he lost everything; he was even \$350,000 in debt — a debt which he later paid with interest. One day in his practically poverty-stricken condition he and a friend drove past the church. The friend, knowing of his earlier gift, said, "I guess you would like to have that \$25,000 back now, wouldn't you?" The young man replied: "No, for you see the money I gave to the church is all that I have left."